

FREE SOFTWARE & GAMES VALUED AT \$140!

BONUS
DVD+CD

PC USER AUSTRALIAN

Entertainment anywhere!

Play games, movies and music anywhere – at home or on the move

RIPPING & BURNING WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

Get PC User's complete Ripping & Burning Toolbox starting with part 1 in this issue

SONY'S NEW PSP

- Ditch your GameBoy and portable DVD player
- How to convert video and audio for PSP

THE COOLEST TIPS

- How to stream movies around your home
- Turn your Xbox into a media centre
- Tune in to Podcasts

HOT SHOOTOUTS

- 20 MP3 players in Australia's toughest audio tests
- Portable media players
- Home theatre media players
- Media centre PCs
- GeForce 7800 GTX video cards

BIG-SCREEN TESTS

- 18 flat-screen LCD and CRT monitor reviews
- 18 data projectors

WIN A MEDIAGATE MG-35
10 media players up for grabs



5 FREE DVD RENTALS
For every PC User reader! Plus 50% off the first two months from any HomeScreen DVD rental plan



DVD
PLUS CD

22 EXCLUSIVE TOOLS!

Over 4GB of software, games & video guides

Get entertained anywhere!

MEDIA CENTRE RESOURCE KIT

FREE, FULLY WORKING TOOLS:

- Convert and stream audio and video files
- Find and record Podcasts and Net radio
- Create multimedia files for Sony's PSP
- Turn your PC or Xbox into a media centre

DVD BONUS!

7 FREE GAMES:

Super Mario Pac, Commando and more.

PLUS: Battlefield 2, Cricket 2005 and two other playable demos, the latest mods for Half-Life 2 and more.



GRAND THEFT AUTO: SAN ANDREAS

Begin the mayhem with this exclusive video walkthrough.



VTC

14 EXCLUSIVE VIDEO GUIDES

How to set up a home network, use X-OOM Movie Clone, latest instalment of VTC's Windows XP Admin, and more.



BACK UP DVD MOVIES!

AS SOLD FOR \$10:

Shrink double-layer DVD movies to a single layer with X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Go! Note: does not back up copy-protected DVD movies.



SPLIT AND JOIN FILES

AS SOLD FOR \$19:

Split large files to send as email attachments or back up onto CDs with the full version of Ashampoo File Splitter & Joiner.



RIP & CONVERT AUDIO

WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

Part 1 of the PC User Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005: a fully working audio ripper.



HARD DRIVE BACKUPS

AS SOLD FOR \$84:

Back up your system and data – create an image of any drive with the full version of Paragon Drive Backup 2004.



Plus 40 other tools: see page 8 for full DVD and CD listings.

PLEASE NOTE: Some of the full-version software requires online registration. All content, apart from the bonus DVD content, is available on both the CD and DVD. The DVD-ROM requires a computer DVD drive.



SEPTEMBER 2005

AUSTRALIA'S
TOP-SELLING
TECHNOLOGY MAGAZINE

acp magazines

\$8.95
inc. GST

NZ \$8.95 inc. GST

www.pcuser.com.au

09



I've just spotted a deal.



Offer extended.
6 months
FREE[†] broadband.
Simple.

optus.com.au/broadband

Important information: *Minimum monthly cost for this package is \$57.90 plus monthly mobile plan charges, some mobile plans excluded (e.g. Prepaid). Minimum total cost \$684.10 for 12 months (includes \$169 broadband connection & modem), plus monthly mobile plan charges. Offer valid to 31st August 2005 for new residential customers. Free broadband access will be applied in your first full month, then selected months over the term of your 12 month agreement. Optus Broadband services are available in major areas of Australia, excluding NT and TAS. For technical or commercial reasons, not all homes can be connected to all Optus services and technology will depend on customer's location.





Better hurry!

I am.

Combine your broadband, home phone and an eligible mobile plan with Optus for 12 months (before 31 August 2005) and you'll get 6 months FREE[†] broadband in your first year, 4 months every year after that, and broadband access from just \$29.95[†] a month. Includes no excess download fees* and free 24/7 technical support. It's that simple so give us a call.

FROM \$29.95[†] PER MONTH

NO EXCESS DOWNLOAD FEES*

FREE TECHNICAL SUPPORT 24/7

CALL 1800 200 808 - BEFORE 31 AUGUST 2005.

(MONDAY TO SATURDAY)

'yes'
OPTUS

Exceeding monthly Data Allowance will see your speed limited to 28.8Kbps until the first day of the next billing month. **OptusNet Cable:** A \$2.20 monthly account processing fee applies unless paid by direct debit. Optus reserves the right to quote for non-standard installations. **General:** Installation fees may apply to your phone line. Early disconnection fees apply (\$300 pro rata for OptusNet Broadband, \$99 pro rata for Optus Local or Long Distance Telephony and applicable mobile cancellation fee). **For full details**, see www.optus.com.au/optusnet Information correct as at 6th July 2005. SingTel Optus Pty Limited ABN 90 052 833 208.

OPTS193/PC

Strathfield

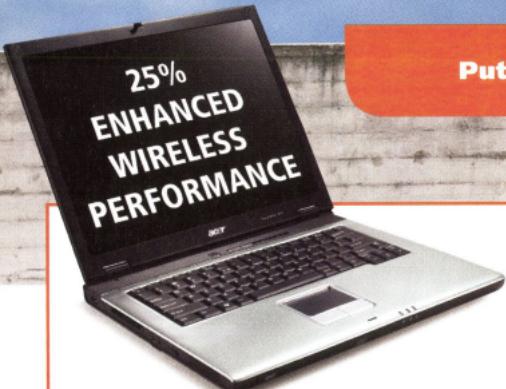
ALLPHONES

bigW

RYDA

acer

Problems with wireless performance?



How does DVD dual layer drive benefit your business?

- investment protection ensuring you can use a wide range of the latest storage media
- simplifies your data management allowing you to store up to 8GB of data on a single disc (10x more than a conventional CD)
- acts as an extension of your HDD for primary storage or backup

RRP inc GST
Custom Rent:
\$15.21 per week*

\$1,899

New Shape of Mobility and Performance

TravelMate 4152LMi

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
- Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73GHz, 2MB L2 cache, 533MHz FSB)
- Intel® PRO/Wireless Network Connection 802.11b/g
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 15" active colour screen
- 512MB DDR2 SDRAM
- 80GB HDD††
- DVD dual layer drive (burns & plays DVDs & CDs)
- FireWire & S-Video & Infrared
- SignalUp high-performance wireless
- 56kbps fax/modem + 10/100 LAN (Broadband-Ready^)
- 1-year pick-up and return service**

EASY UPGRADE TO:

- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional for only \$100*
- 3-year pick-up and return warranty** for only \$249



There's wireless. Then there's Acer SignalUp.

A breakthrough that boosts wireless performance by a minimum of 25%.[†] You get a more stable signal and higher-quality wireless connection outdoors and in the most difficult indoor environments. Visit www.acer.com.au/signalup to download your FREE independent report on SignalUp technology.

*Source: RMIT Test Labs, August 2004.

3 reasons to choose Acer

1

Fastest growing major PC vendor. You can't argue with success! Acer showed the highest year-on-year increase among the top 5 PC vendors with 33% growth.* The Q4, 2004 industry growth was 13.7%.

2

24x7 service hotline. Acer servers are backed by our 24x7 service hotline. In the unlikely event that you encounter a problem, you can call any time and an experienced technician can help you resolve the problem on the spot over the phone.

3

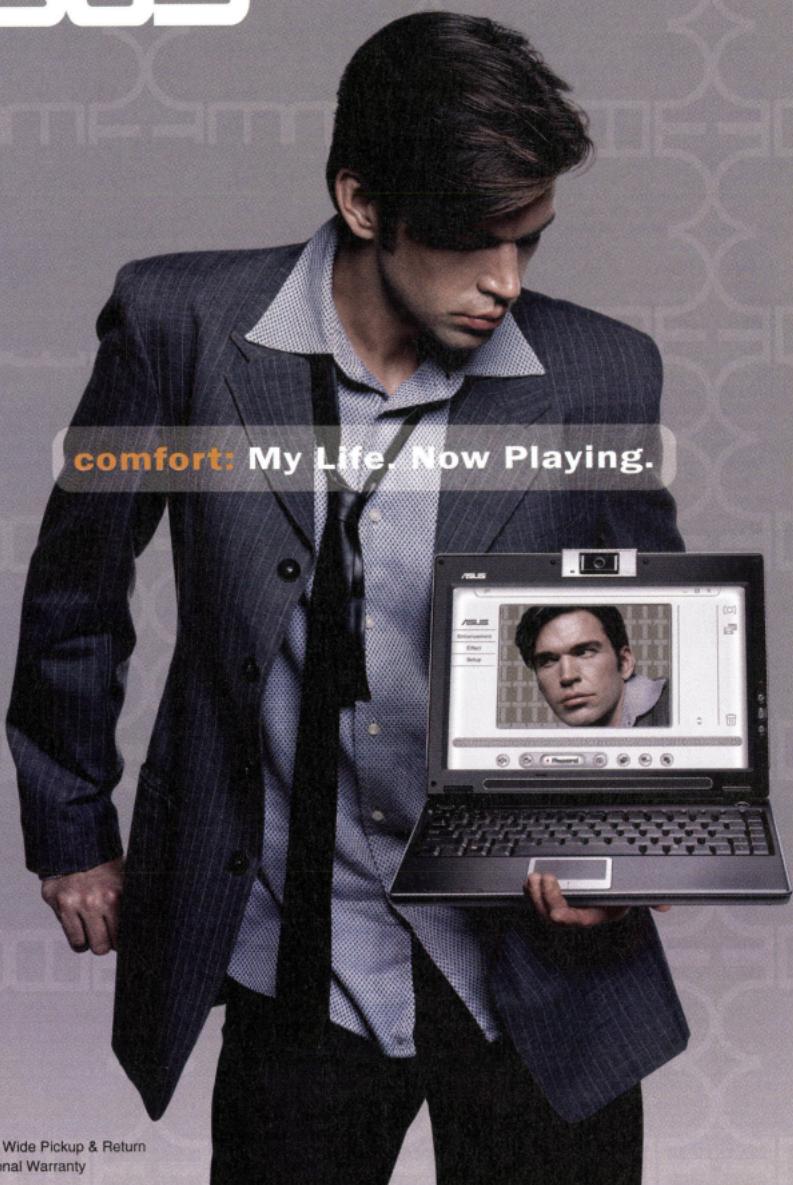
Acer saves you money. We offer BuildYourOwn options on our complete range so you can configure your dream machine and only pay for what you need.

The power to unwire Indy

Acer TravelMate Notebooks have been used to unwire Indy since 2003. The combination of Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology and extended battery life has given over 50 Indy operations staff the ability to coordinate and supply up-to-the-minute race activity to media, officials and corporate guests. In addition, it has allowed racing teams such as US-based Herdez Competition to share data wirelessly, gain instant access to real-time weather reports and collate on-track qualifying information to make race management decisions. Now's the time to put Acer's TravelMate Notebooks to work for your business.

Acer is the exclusive IT sponsor
of the Lexington Indy 300.

ASUS®



comfort: My Life. Now Playing.



Years

Global Warranty

2 Year Australia Wide Pickup & Return

2 Year International Warranty

Call 1300 ASUS 88 :: Visit www.asus.com.au

ASUS recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional



The Slim, Lightweight 15-inch Notebook

V6 series from RRP\$2,999

An ultra-slim 15" notebook. Characterised by a refined and elegant design, it offers both functionality and cutting edge performance. A modern symbol of success and style for urban elites.



LCD ZBD
Zero Bright Dot



■ Rich Cinematic Audio

■ Aluminium Alloy Casing with
Unique Hairline Design Surface



Total Vision Satisfaction for Multitasking

W3 series from RRP\$2,199

Open up and unlock a world of possibilities. With its widescreen and new Colour Shine display technology, it brings ultimate visual enjoyment in displaying 2 windows simultaneously. Perfect notebook for both work and play.



Color Shine
Gloss Type Panel



■ 14" Widescreen for Cinematic
Enjoyment



■ Unique Concealed Bamboo
Battery Hinge



Swivel 180° for Total Image Capturing

W5 series from RRP\$2,899

No matter where you are, with W5000A built-in 1.3 mega-pixel Swivel Webcam, microphone and exclusive LiveFrame software, it allows easy capturing, recording and playing of photos and videos. "My life. Now Playing."



Color Shine
Gloss Type Panel



■ Built-In 180° Swivel Webcam



■ Classic Black and White Design

The New Mobile Processing Platform

Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology delivers wireless Internet access, allowing you to stay connected anytime, anywhere.



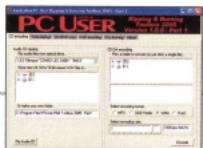
MOBILE
TECHNOLOGY

Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.

Entertainment anywhere!

RIPPING AND BURNING WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

Get PC User's complete
Ripping & Burning
Toolbox starting with
part 1 in this issue 84



18 flat-screen LCD and CRT

monitor reviews 48

18 data projectors 72

DIY software 84

Build the first part of our new
ripping and burning application.

Internet 86

How podcasting works.

Xbox upgrading 88

Turn your Xbox into a Linux-based media centre.

Peer to peer 93

How to use Shareaza.

Windows XP 94

Create a boot disk.

Windows 98/Me 98

Get more out of image files.

Office 100

Columns in your documents.

Design 103

Customising Publisher.

Photo editing 104

Using Photoshop CS2.

DIY music 106

Mix music in ACID XPress.

Web authoring 108

Working with images.

HELP STATION

Help Station Q&A 110

Technical questions answered.

FAQ 114

Copying and pasting tips.

Cover disc tutorials 116

A guide to using X-OOM Movie
Clone 3 Gol, Paragon Drive
Backup 2004 and Ashampoo
File Splitter & Joiner.

AFTER HOURS

Play PC videos

on your TV 122

Media players that let you access
your PC from the lounge room.

Cool and new 124

The latest in cool tech gadgets.

REVIEWED / THIS ISSUE

HARDWARE

Acer AC915	52	LG Flatron L1950S	49
Acer AL1913sm	50	LG Flatron T910B	54
Acer Aspire T630	30	Linomiph L117 MP3 Player	34
Acer PD113P	73	Marvel Computers	
Acer PD125	74	Media Centre 3400i	26
Acer PH110	76	Mitsubishi DV1975B	48
Acer TravelMate		Mitsubishi DV992A	55
3002WTCI	22	MSI MEGA mPC 800K	22
Apacer Audio Steno		MSI Mega Player 521	35
AB320	35	MSI Mega Player 522BT	35
Apacer Audio Steno		MSI Mega View 566	46
AP510	36	NEC AccuSync LCD992V	50
Apacer Audio Steno		NEC HT410G	76
AV230	36	NEC MultiSync LCD4010	57
Apple iPod Shuffle	36	NEC VT474G	73
Apple iPod	42	Nintendo DS	65
Archos AV420	46	Orbit DMP-768T	46
Archos Gmini 400	44	Panasonic DMC-FZ3	22
ASUS P5ND2-SLI Deluxe	62	PC eXpress Phoenix	
Banksia Digital PMP20	45	1060A	26
Belkin TuneCast II Mobile		PCQUEST Cinevue	28
FM transmitter	124	Philips 1905G	50
Belkin Voice Recorder		Philips 200W6	56
for iPod	125	Philips 230W	57
BenQ FP231W	56	Pinnacle ShowCenter	
BenQ FP91V+	49	200	122
BenQ PB6210	74	Pioneer DreamVision	
BenQ PE5120	76	HD200	42
Buffalo Link Theater	122	Pioneer DreamVision	
Creative Digital Wireless		MP318	35
Headphones CB2530	125	Rectron CMATCS-81915GMF-	
Creative MuVo Mix	34	3200MC	28
Creative MuVo TX FM	34	Samsung YH-820	40
Creative Zen Micro	40	Samsung YH-925	42
Creative Zen Neon	40	Samsung YP-T7Z	36
Creative Zen Portable		Sony PSP	64
Media Center	45	Sony VPLDS100	75
Creative Zen	40	Sony VPLES2	72
Dell 2405FPW	55	Sorell SV-10	44
D-Link AirPlus G		TI Computers Media	
DWL-G730AP	24	Center 1000	28
Emagene Averex 1200	28	Toshiba Qosmio G20	23
Epson EMP-732	74	Toshiba TDP-MT200	75
Epson EMP-S3	73	ViewSonic G90t	54
Epson EMP-TW10H	76	ViewSonic VP231Wb	57
Epson P-2000	45	ViewSonic VX924	52
Geil iBall	38		
Hauppauge MediaMVP	123		
HP L1902	49		
HP mp3222	74		
HP vp6315	73		
InFocus ScreenPlay 4805	75		
InFocus X2	73		
InFocus X3	74		
iPod Camera Connector	124		
KISS DP-1500	123		
Klipsch ProMedia			
Ultra 2.0	124		
Laserpod	125		
Lexar Digital Music Player			
LDP-600	35		

SOFTWARE

Blazing Angels: Squadrons	
of WWII	69
Destroy All Humans	70
ER	71
Far Cry: Instincts	69
God of War	70
King Kong	68
Madagascar	70
Netscape 8	25
Opera 8	24
Prince of Persia 3	68
Retro Atari Classics	71
Sony ACID Pro 5	24



CIRCULATION: 64,332 copies sold per issue (ABC Circulation Audit, December 2004). READERSHIP: 423,000 readers per issue (Roy Morgan Readership Survey, September 2004). WINNER of the 2004 Sun Microsystems IT Journalism Award for 'Best Technical Title'.

CD & DVD contents

PC USER

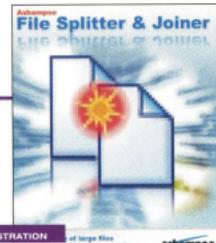
X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Go!

Produce cinema-quality DVD movie backups in under 10 minutes on a DVD-R, double-layer DVD-R, or directly onto your hard drive. Note: does not back up copy-protected DVD movies. For more, read our tutorial on page 116.



Ashampoo File Splitter & Joiner

This useful utility enables you to split files to save large documents that are too big to fit on one CD, or split large files that you want to send as email attachments. We show you how to use the software on page 120.



Paragon Drive Backup 2004

Create complete backups of your hard disk or separate partitions without having to reboot Windows. Learn more on page 118.

REQUIRES ONLINE REGISTRATION



VTC Windows XP Admin

The latest instalment of this complete training course.



HomeScreen

Trial this great online DVD rental service and get five free DVD rentals, as well as 50% off the first two months when you continue your subscription after your free trial.*

PC User Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005

World Exclusive! Part 1 of our tool contains a fully working audio ripper.



Media Centre Resource Kit

Everything you need to convert and stream audio and video files, find and record podcasts or turn your PC, Xbox or PSP into a media centre.



NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, the listed programs may be shareware or trial versions.

* Terms and conditions apply. See cover discs for details.

CD CONTENTS

RESOURCE KIT:

PODCASTING AND STREAMING SOFTWARE

Shoutcast Server DNAS 1.9.5, Streamable 2.0, Replay Radio 6.0, iTunes 4.9, Doppler Radio 2.0.0.3, FeedDemon 1.5V, iPodder 2.1, Winamp Basic 5.09

MEDIA CENTRE ALTERNATIVE SOFTWARE

GB-PVR, MediaPortal, Chameleon, xLobby, MediaEngine

SOFTWARE:

FREE FULL VERSIONS

Ashampoo File Splitter & Joiner, Paragon Drive Backup 2004, X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Go!, PC User's Ripping and Burning Toolbox

BROWSERS

Avant Browser 10.0 build 168, Maxthon 1.3.1, Mozilla Firefox

1.0.4, Slim Browser 4.05 build 007, Netscape Navigator 7.2

ONLINE TOOLS

AbcShortcuts 1.0, All-in-One SECRETMAKER 4.1.8, Electronic Phone Book 1.8.5, ePrompter 2.0, Gain 1.3, Newzile 0.9.1, SmartFTP 1.5.988, Viewpoint Toolbar 2.0.0.35, MeBlog 1.0

UTILITIES

Ace Utilities 2.5.0, IconXpert 1.02 build 129, Ignition 2.9.1.51, Mini Shut Down Utilities 2.8, Resync 1.7.14, VersionBackup 3.0

ANTIVIRUS

NOD32 2

MAG STUFF:

Audio and video streaming, Podcasting and RSS feeds, Xbox Linux Media Centre, PlayStation Portable audio and video guide, Macros, Peer to peer, Rip and burn, Copy and paste

ENTERTAINMENT:

FREE GAMES

Commando, Mark Baseshore's Super Damage House, Noctis V, Super Mario Pac, Super Methane Brothers, TRIUMPH! WAR 2099

GAME DEMOS

Worms 4: Mayhem

TUTORIALS:

VIDEO TUTORIALS
DVD-ROM upgrade

DVD CONTENTS

ENTERTAINMENT:

FREE GAMES

Commando, Mark Baseshore's Super Damage House, Noctis V, Super Mario Pac, Super Methane Brothers, TRIUMPH! WAR 2099

GAME DEMOS

Battlefield 2, Chaos League:



DVD EXCLUSIVES!

This month's DVD exclusives include demos of *Battlefield 2*, *Cricket 2005*, *Area 51* (single player) and *Chaos League: Sudden Death*, as well as the latest mods for *Half-Life 2*, *DOOM 3* and more. There are also 14 exclusive video guides, including how to use X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Go! and Ashampoo File Splitter & Joiner, a video walkthrough of *Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas*, how to set up a home network, how to create watermarks with Microsoft Publisher and much more. Plus, the latest

instalment of VTC's Windows XP Admin complete video training course. If that's not enough, we've also provided an Essentials Pack featuring all the essential security and privacy utilities, tools for our magazine guides in addition to ripping and burning apps.

Please note: some of the full-version software requires online registration. All content, apart from the bonus DVD content, is available on both the CD and DVD. The DVD-ROM requires a computer DVD drive.



Sudden Death, Area 51 single-player, Cricket 2005 demo, Worms 4: Mayhem

GAME MODES

Doom3(CC) 2.0 mod, Eclipse mod for Half-Life 2, Garry's Mod 8.3a for Half-Life 2, Project Raptor 4 mod for Command & Conquer Generals: Zero Hour

GAME PATCHES

Act of War: Direct Action 1.05 patch, ER patch #1, SWAT 4 1.1 patch, World of Warcraft 1.5.0 patch

GAME MOVIES

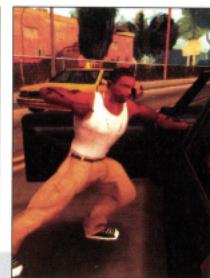
Halo 2 Sanctuary trailer, Halo 2 Turf trailer, Need for Speed Most Wanted, Prey in-game footage, Serious Sam 2 trailer

GAME TUTORIALS

Grant Theft Auto: San Andreas

DVD RELEASES

Being Julia, Coach Carter, Hating



Alison Ashley, Hitch, Hostage, Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous, Sahara, The Extra, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, The Interpreter

MAG STUFF:

Xbox Gentoxx Media Center Linux ISO

TUTORIALS:

VIDEO TUTORIALS

DVD-ROM upgrade, VTC Windows XP Admin, Setting up a wireless network, X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Go!, Microsoft Publisher: watermarks, Ashampoo File Splitter & Joiner, Word processing: columns, Adobe Photoshop CS2: vanishing point, Web images, XP boot disk, Networking: part 1, Networking: part 2, Wireless network security



USING THE COVER DISCS

Startup

The cover discs use a Web-style interface. You only need to install a Web browser to be able to view the contents. If you already have a browser installed, then the discs will autorun (for Windows 95/98/ME/2000/XP) and load your default browser at the home page of the disc. If the discs do not autorun, simply launch your favourite browser and open the page DEFAULT.HTM from the root of the disc. If you don't have a Web browser installed, you can install one from the discs. See the cover disc case for details.

System requirements

The PC User CD can be used with any PC that reads DOS-based CD-ROMs; the DVD requires a DVD-ROM drive. However, we recommend use with Microsoft Internet Explorer 4 or later for Windows, which requires at least a 486 with 8MB of RAM. The third-party software on the discs will often have higher system requirements.

Before using the CDs

We've provided installation instructions on the disc case's back cover, including what to do if you have problems. Please read these carefully before using our cover discs. Also, click on 'Terms of Use' on the default page of either disc and read the terms and conditions of use before use. If you agree with the terms, you may continue to use the discs, and this use will constitute your acceptance of the conditions stated. If you do not agree with all of the terms, you may not continue to use the discs and you should return the discs and magazine to us for a refund. We also recommend that you read our Help file, which is available from the default page.

PC USER'S

ESSENTIALS PACK:

SECURITY & PRIVACY TOOLS

12 Ghosts WASH LE 7.10, Cryptainer LE 5.0.1.0, FileMap by BB 3.0.2, Grisoft AVG 7.0, SpoofStick for Firefox, Spybot - Search & Destroy 1.3, SyncBack 3.2.5, ZoneLabs ZoneAlarm 5.5.062

TOOLS FOR MAGAZINE GUIDES

Audacity 1.2.3, Azureus

2.2.0.0, IE View 0.84, Mozilla

Firefox 1.0.1, Mozilla Thunderbird

0.9, Nvu 1.0, OpenDownload

0.2.1, OpenOffice.org 1.1.3,

The GIMP 2.0.5, Zwei-Stein 3.01

RIPPING & BURNING TOOLS

CDBurnerXP Pro 3.0.116, CDE 1.51, LAME ACM Codec 0.9, TMPGEnc 2.521, VCDEasy 1.1.5.2, VirtualDubMod 1.5.10.1, Xvid 1.0.3

What's fair use?

Glenn Rees explains why copyright laws are vital to how we use technology.

You may not be aware of it, but we're in the midst of a pitched battle. Copyright owners such as record companies have declared war on pirates, with us, the ordinary consumers, caught in the middle. In fact, many consumers are seen as the enemy by some copyright owners because they don't see them as innocent bystanders when it comes to piracy.

The trouble is the definition of piracy varies according to your point of view. The Australian Record Industry Association (ARIA) has unequivocally stated that consumers should not be allowed to make any copies of their music for any reason. All the consumers I know believe we should be able to make copies of music or movies for personal use. Most agree it's wrong to give copies to friends or to download pirated material, but there's little doubt some do it anyway.

And that's the problem with copyright laws. How can you set laws that are fair to everyone? At the same time, many of today's most exciting new devices have uses that are technically illegal. Currently, it's illegal to copy and convert the majority of commercial movies and music for use with Sony's PSP (reviewed on page 64), one of the portable media players reviewed on page 44, or a home theatre media player (page 122), media centre PC (page 26) or MP3 player (page 34).

However, a potentially far-reaching review of Australia's copyright laws is being

undertaken by the federal government. The issue paper, *Fair Use and Other Copyright Exceptions*, makes interesting reading because it contains a summary of the existing copyright laws, various overseas laws and submissions for law changes by the Copyright Law Review Committee (CLRC).

You can read the full paper at <http://tinyurl.com/8lfp3>, but essentially, the CLRC's main recommendation is that we should follow the open-ended 'fair use' provision in US law. According to the issue paper, "The application of fair use in the US as determined by their legal system specifically provides for several unique copyright doctrines, namely time shifting and space shifting".

Time shifting is simply the ability to record TV and radio broadcasts for later viewing and listening, while space shifting is fancy term for converting content for use on a different device (such as converting audio from a CD to MP3).

The Australian Copyright Council (ACC) disagrees in its submission (see www.copyright.org.au/pdf/acc/Submissions/X0503.pdf). An organisation that represents the interests of authors, artists and copyright owners, the ACC contends that the US fair

use provision would create uncertainty and reinforce the belief that it "would allow free private copying in a large range of circumstances". However, it is in favour of specific exceptions, including "the private copying of audio and audiovisual material, in certain circumstances, provided copyright owners are remunerated for the copying". Mostly, that remuneration should be "generated by levies payable on copying equipment and/or media". Notably, the ACC's paper says that one of its affiliates, ARIA, does not support the ACC's position on a private copying exemption tied to payment to copyright owners. ARIA has made its position regarding copying very clear (see <http://tinyurl.com/dqa74> for a PDF).

Unfortunately, even a change of law to allow private copying may be useless in some circumstances anyway. Under Australia's Free Trade Agreement with the US, the government is committed to even tighter controls on "circumventing technological protection measures". Basically, that's any device (or software) that defeats copy protection, such as the technology used on commercial DVD movies. What's the point of allowing private copying if it's illegal to use the tools that enable you to make the copies?

The *Fair Use and Other Copyright Exceptions* paper was released in May and officially, submissions to the government have already closed (on July 1). However, as a citizen you are always entitled to voice your concern to the government. Do you want to be able to legally convert movies and/or music for your personal use? If so, you should contact your local MP or the federal Attorney-General's Department directly. ☺

COMING UP

There's a huge range of tools available to fight spyware, viruses, hackers and spam, but which ones actually work? In the October issue, we put security software to the ultimate test. That's as well as all our regular tips and tutorials, reviews of PC products and home entertainment gear, plus exclusive video tutorials, free software and games on our cover discs.

PC USER

September 2005 Volume 17 Number 9

Editorial

Editor GLENN REES
Deputy Editor ANNA RACITI
Reviews Editor/Sub-Editor OLGA JEVODIC
Technical Writer NICK MAILATH

Art Director DAVID COOPER
Graphic Designers CLAUDIO CAMPBELL
Commissioning Editor JOHN HILVERT
JULIAN SCHOFFEL, DARREN YATES
Contributing Writers

LES BELL, KURT BEST,
HELEN BRADLEY, LINK HARRIS,
JOHN HEWPORTH, ANGUS KIDMAN,
GAIL LIPSCOMB, PHILIP MOORE,
TERRY O'SHEA, ROBERT TAYLOR,
DANIELE VENEZI, JAMES WIKSTROM,
ROULLA YIACOUMI, PAUL ZUCKER

Web & Database Manager DAN WADDELL
Digital Media Manager ROB RODGUEZ
Promotions Co-ordinator
KIMM NALLETTAMBY

Advertising

New Advertising Manager
AMORETTA JUDD, Senior Account
Manager MIKE DIXON, Account
Manager KATINA GOUSETIS,
Advertising Coordinator ADAM STEAD

Corporate

CEO JOHN ALEXANDER
Group Publisher PHIL SCOTT
Associate Publisher MICHAEL KOSLOWSKI
Advertising Director ANDREW COOK
Production Controller LEANNIE CATLIN
Advertising Production LEANNIE CATLIN
Business Analyst ANNA DUPE

Contact Us

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BACK ISSUES
Phone 13 18 16 (Monday to Friday 8am
to 5pm, Saturday 9am to 1pm)
Email: subscr@pcuser.com.au
Web: www.pcuser.com.au

CD Support: Email pcuser@acp.com.au
See full technical support details
on the CD back cover.

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES
Phone: (02) 9288 9111
Email: pcuser@acp.com.au
Fax: (02) 9288 9090

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES
NSW: Amorettta Judd (02) 9288 9158
Email: ajudd@pcuser.com.au
VIC: Matthew Haynes (03) 9827 6222
Queensland: Noel Fitzpatrick
(07) 3299 2444
Australian Capital Territory:
(06) 2739 2444
Shop Wise Classifieds:
Katalin Grossman (02) 9288 9147

ADVERTISING MATERIAL
Leanne Catlin (02) 9288 9048
POSTAL ADDRESS
PC User, GPO Box 4088, Sydney NSW 2001

STREET ADDRESS
Level 9, Stockland House, 175-183 Castlemead Street, Sydney NSW 2000

SYNDICATION ENQUIRIES
London: John Stalter
Phone: 44 20 812 6527
Email: jsalter@acpuk.com
Sydney: Michael Waters
Phone: 612 9288 8808
Email: gallen-waters@acp.com.au

WEB www.pcuser.com.au
Published by ACP Magazines Ltd ABN 18 053 273 546, 54-58 Park Street, Sydney, New South Wales, 2000. © 2005 All rights reserved. Printed by Webster - A Division of Blue Star Print Group Australia Pty Limited ABN 58 000 205 210, Unit 1, 83 Derby Street, Silverwater, NSW, 2128. Material contained within Australian PC User magazine is protected by copyright under the Copyright Act 1968. No material may be reproduced in part or in whole without written consent from the copyright holders. All rights reserved. Subscription rates (surface mail in Australia): one year (\$15.00) \$79.95, two years (24 issues) \$159.90. See page 96 for details.

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE

FUJITSU



Super clarity widescreen.

Fujitsu recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional.

The LifeBook N3510 is the ultimate advancement in mobile home entertainment technology. Business and home users can experience enhanced performance and greater processing power. This high performance notebook boasts a 15.4" SuperFine Wide display with a 130-degree multi-viewing angle that provides superior clarity for rich multimedia playback and movie-viewing - perfect for demanding business presentations, or enjoying the latest DVD movies.

With the "Instant MyMedia" feature, users can avoid the need to first boot into the standard Windows® XP operating system and enjoy instant movies and music entertainment at the touch of a button.

Out-of-the-world entertainment. Now in a notebook.

Powered by the next-generation Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology.

Built-In Confidence



FUJITSU PC AUSTRALIA

Registered business name of

Fujitsu PC Asia Pacific Pte Ltd ARBN 098 263 195

lifebook.com.au

1 8 0 0 2 8 8 2 8 3



Wireless connectivity and some features may require you to purchase additional software, services or external hardware. Availability of public wireless LAN access points limited. System performance measured by MobileMark® 2002. System performance, battery life, wireless performance and functionality will vary depending on your specific hardware and software configurations. Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino logo, Centrino, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, MaxxAudio, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. All product information is correct at time of printing.

Dealing with overseas suppliers

John Hilvert investigates reader complaints.

With many great services available through the Net, it can be a pain when you don't get a response from your supplier, especially if they are overseas. Such was the

plight facing Ian Shephard.

Shephard paid to renew his subscription to FarStone VirtualDrive Pro for a further 12 months. But he found the key provided to activate his subscription was out of date or

rejected. "I have emailed FarStone 11 times and they just do not respond."

Consumer Report had better luck and got a response within a day from the US-based FarStone indicating they would look into it and get back to us shortly.

Its marketing manager, Don Lewis said the company had

CONTACT CONSUMER REPORT

Have you been a victim of poor customer service or support? we'd like to hear about your problems and try to resolve them. Send a letter of no more than 300 words to pcuserreport@acp.com.au or address your letter to Reader Report, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 2001. Please include a daytime contact phone number.

converted from one tech support email system and contact address to another one.

"The issue with Mr. Shephard must have occurred during that time which also was during a personnel change in our Tech Department. It appears that Mr. Shephard is satisfied for the moment."

PC USER COMMENTS

1. In this case, the outcome was good. But it's always wise to check a company's support by trying its support system before committing to any subscription.

2. FarStone also offers the following tips to obtain better technical support from any overseas company, including themselves:

- ◆ Always contact technical support in the suggested manner that the company provides. There is usually a good reason why it is set up that way and, in addition, is probably the most effective way for requests to be processed in a timely manner.
- ◆ If you have not received support in the specified or expected timeframe, check with

the company for other contact and problem resolution options. For example, check FAQs on their Web site if applicable, check for other contact methods such as phone numbers and email addresses. Is there a customer bulletin board to post questions and share stories with other customers of that same company?

- ◆ You should be active in attempting to contact the company.
- ◆ If you have no luck with verbal or electronic communication after a reasonable timeframe (depending on the nature and severity of the problem), write a letter and send it 'certified-receipt requested' (of course, this would depend on the severity of the issue and you

would have to make a judgment call based on your own personal investment already made in terms of time and product costs).

3. Dealing with an overseas company can be tough, as regulatory support may be less easy. With US-based companies, this should improve under the forthcoming Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement. It includes a 'cross-border consumer protection' provision (article 14.6), where Australia and the US agree to strengthen their cooperation in areas covered by their consumer protection laws; in particular, fraudulent and deceptive commercial practices against consumers.

How we can help

A nagging problem that hits our mail bag quite frequently is when vendors agree to do right by a consumer, but only if they withdraw their complaint to *PC User*. A recent case regarded a notebook that wasn't working and had to be returned to the distributor three times.

On the third trip back to the vendor, the notebook was badly damaged during transit, but the company refused to accept

responsibility for the damage.

We received a letter of complaint from the reader (which was also posted to the distributor) detailing the problems experienced since purchasing the laptop.

The notebook had failed to operate satisfactorily since it was purchased. Issues such as screen display, optical drives and general reliability were raised. In his letter, the reader

concluded he was keen to resolve the issue and would be satisfied with a replacement unit of equal value.

We wrote to the distributor, asking for their comments and what options, if any, were available to our reader. As it happened, the distributor contacted us fairly quickly to say that the customer in question had been contacted and a satisfactory solution was

reached — a replacement unit was being sent to him.

Furthermore, we received a letter from our reader to say that he was grateful for our assistance, but that he didn't want *PC User* to divulge details about the problem or the vendor. The vendor had only agreed to send a replacement notebook to our reader if he agreed to withdraw his complaint to *PC User*. 

PC USER COMMENTS

1. Under the Trade Practices Legislation, you have a right to expect products that you purchase as being merchantable — ie. to perform as promised and expected.

2. If not, you have a right to return them and, if necessary, get a refund, repair or suitable equivalent.

3. To facilitate this, you should return the product to your supplier, documenting the

issue. If you don't receive a good response, you can report the issue to your local Consumer Affairs Bureau or lodge a complaint with your Small Claims Tribunal.

- 4.** This can be tough, so it can be worthwhile reporting the issue to the media.
- 5.** By all means refer your complaints to us; we are happy to enquire into the issues as a matter of education and a service to our readers.

Sometimes our inquiry will trigger a resolution.

6. In this case, we've decided it's a win-win arrangement. Our reader gets a resolution, the vendor gets to exercise his resolution without having his company or the product publicised and we get to write about it generally. It is a case-by-case issue and we may exercise discretion to publish details when the case so warrants it.

SOFTWARE PIRACY HAS ALWAYS BEEN CRIMINAL.

NOW IT'S A CRIME.

THINK BACK NOW...to that day at school when Nigel (it seems an appropriate name) borrowed your new eraser.

Remember?

The perfect, soft one that you never saw again. And despite your pleas to Miss Cross (ditto, the name), there was never any justice.

'BORROWING' SOFTWARE IS EQUALLY UNJUST.

It takes hundreds of people, thousands of hours (not to mention millions of investment dollars) to develop a professional software application.

It's their creation that they've worked hard for. It deserves to be protected and fairly rewarded.

But software piracy robs everyone of their just entitlement. It's frustrating and demoralising. It's not borrowing, it's having a lend.

NOW IT'S ALSO A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.

Until recently, any redress against businesses using illegal software has had to be pursued through civil courts.

On 1 January 2005, however, the Australian Copyright Act was amended, making the use of illegal software by businesses a crime.

THERE IS A HIGH PRICE TO PAY.

Civil damages can still be sought for breach of copyright. But with the change in law, substantial criminal penalties can also apply for businesses gaining commercial advantage.

And it's not only the organisation that could pay the penalty for illegal software use. Directors and employees also risk criminal charges if convicted.

- **Organisations** can face substantial fines of up to \$467,500.
- **Individuals** can be fined up to \$93,500 and sentenced to a maximum of 5 years' jail.

THERE'S THE SHAME, TOO.

Time and money aren't all that's at stake. So is something just as valuable in business.

Reputation.

The fortunes of many businesses have peaked and plummeted with it. In fact, some leading Australian companies have been sued for using illegal software.

Let's try and sneak a few company names past the censors:



with the law. Often they're just trying to get their job done well. But by sharing or installing software inappropriately, they may be committing an offence.

THERE ARE EASY STEPS TO TAKE.

Like all crime, if it's left unchecked, it can grow. So the first step towards stamping out software piracy is to commit to action. Next:

- **Establish** software management procedures for your organisation
- **Inform** all employees of your organisation's software management policy
- **Secure** your software and documentation in a safe place
- **Conduct** regular software audits.

For helpful tools and more information about software management, visit www.bsaa.com.au

IT ONLY TAKES A SECOND TO COMMIT THE CRIME.

A roll of the mouse and the click of a button is all it takes to illegally install an application or make an unauthorised copy of software disks.

A split second.

That's all the time it takes to put your business in serious jeopardy.

BUT WHAT'S A SOFTWARE CRIMINAL LOOK LIKE?

Black masks? Striped shirts?

If only it were so easy to identify the culprits. But most software crime is committed by everyday people who have never had a brush

OR CONTACT US FOR HELP.

We don't want Adobe software users paying the penalty for software piracy.

Please call and we will happily discuss your Adobe software requirements and work with you to ensure your Adobe licenses are compliant.

Just call AUS 1300 550 305 NZ 0800 444 735.



©2005 Adobe Systems Incorporated. All rights reserved. Adobe and the Adobe logo are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.

BUG & VIRUS REPORT

Keep your browser patched

Rose Vines gives you a great reason to ensure you always have the latest version of your browser.

What version of Firefox are you using? So far this year there have been several major revisions to patch up security holes and other vulnerabilities in the browser. If the version you're running is anything earlier than 1.0.4 (click Help on the menu, then 'About Mozilla Firefox'), you should visit www.mozilla.org and download the most recent version immediately. There are some serious flaws in the early Firefox releases, although the open source browser still looks almost ironclad relative to the ever-leaking Internet Explorer.

In fact, whichever browser you use, it's vitally important to

keep it patched and up to date. A surprisingly large proportion of hacking attacks succeed by exploiting vulnerabilities for which a patch has already been issued! Once a vulnerability has been acknowledged and publicised, hackers have all the information they need to see whether they can take advantage of the flaw. Your unpatched browser is an open invitation to the hackers who exploit old holes.

• Phishing telltales

With increased reports of phishing scams targeting Australian banks, it's a good time to review some simple ways to spot phishing scams.

◆ Email that addresses you

generically, such as 'Dear Customer' instead of your name.

- ◆ Email with multiple recipients in the 'To:' field.
- ◆ Bad grammar and misspellings in the email.
- ◆ Links that take you to anywhere other than the financial institution's site. A simple way to detect this is to hover your mouse pointer over the link you are supposed to click within the email.
- ◆ Email containing an attachment.

• Online credit cards

Are you having a rethink about using your credit card online after the huge security breach earlier this year, which left 40 million cardholders vulnerable?

From: Bank of the West Department (secure@bankofthewest.com)

To: [REDACTED]@net, [REDACTED]@net, [REDACTED]@net, [REDACTED]@net, [REDACTED]@net, [REDACTED]@net

Subject: Notification of Limited Account Access

All part of our security measures, we regularly screen activity in the banking system for unusual activity. We would like to advise that your account was not accessed by an unauthorized third party. Because protecting the security of your account is our primary concern, we have taken temporary action to limit your account access. We apologize that this may cause an inconvenience but please understand that this temporary mitigation is for your protection.

Case ID Number: PP-059-250-755

For your protection, we have limited access to your account until additional security measures are put in place. If you have any questions, please contact Bank of the West or visit our website at <http://www.bankofthewest.com/Secure/PP-059-250-755.htm>.

If after reviewing your account information you still have concerns about your account access, please contact Bank of the West by visiting the Help Center and clicking "Contact Us". We thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Unfortunately, it won't help you. That credit card schemozzle affected both offline and online credit card users.

In fact, having a credit card with online access to your account details is one of the better protection you can have. Normally, you have no idea what's going on with your card until you get your monthly statement. With an Internet-accessible account, you can check card activity on a daily basis and spot suspicious-looking transactions early. If your card has zero-risk fraud protection, as many do, and you keep an eye on transactions, you can use your credit card most places, offline or on, with some confidence.

HARDWARE REPORT

Intel's day in court

Chip minnow AMD dobs in heavyweight Intel to the teacher for bullying, says Darren Yates.

Chip manufacturer AMD has always been seemingly happy to pick up the market scraps Intel has left behind. But not any longer.

On June 28, AMD filed an antitrust suit against Intel, claiming anticompetitive practices. The case is said to include explosive claims that Intel coerced PC vendors, including Dell, into exclusivity deals featuring financial incentives to limit or exclude

business with AMD.

By June 30, AMD Japan had taken up the baton, suing Intel for US\$50 million after Japan's Fair Trade Commission had found Intel guilty in March of deliberately aiming to limit AMD's market share.

The following week, AMD had filed to seek that all third-party companies mentioned in the original suit keep any documents relevant to their trading with Intel.

Things only got worse for the

chip giant when the European Commission raided Intel offices on July 12 for evidence that Intel had broken EU antitrust laws in an investigation begun back in 2001.

If Intel is found guilty, it could have repercussions for the PC market as a whole, which enjoys healthy advertising incentives from Intel.

You can read the full complaint at www.amd.com/us-en/assets/content_type/DownloadableAssets/AMD-Intel_Full_Complaint.pdf.

According to online news publication The Register (www.theregister.co.uk), the real fight starts the first

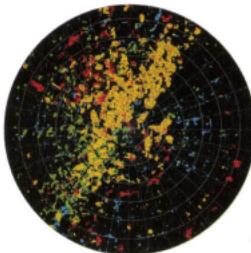
week in August, when both combatants meet for an initial court conference.

This is a huge play for AMD — going to court is sometimes seen as a last-ditch attempt to break the shackles, but AMD knows it has superior products at the moment and needs markets to turn those products into cold, hard cash.

You can guarantee this trial, will be a war fought in the trenches, and one likely go on for years, unless a deal is struck in the early stages.

But I'd be surprised if that happened — with the processor market worth billions, there are too many reasons to fight. 

Not only do you get to work on a multi-million dollar radar system, but we'll pay you \$45,900 to do it.



Start on \$25,100.p.a.
and earn over
\$45,900.p.a.
after training.

Build your career experience
working on electronic systems
unlike anything else in the
civilian world.

No prior experience is necessary
as the Navy will train you
from scratch, as long as you have
passes in Year 10 Maths and
English, with some trades requiring
Science as well.



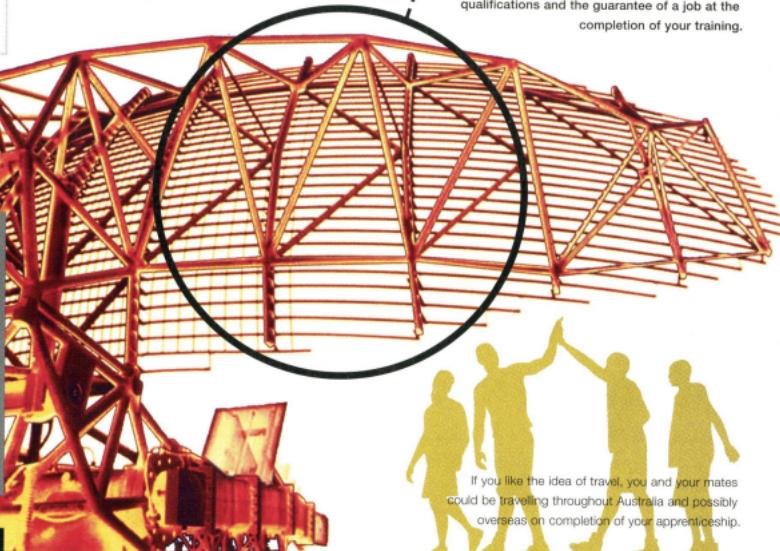
The power output of the ANZAC's search radar
equates to over 300 microwave ovens.

GUARANTEE

You'll receive nationally accredited
qualifications and the guarantee of a job at the
completion of your training.

APPRENTICESHIP SPECIFICATIONS

- NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
- GUARANTEED JOB
- GREAT PAY
- UNMATCHED BENEFITS
- NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE
- PROMOTION OPPORTUNITIES
- TEAM ENVIRONMENT



If you like the idea of travel, you and your mates
could be travelling throughout Australia and possibly
overseas on completion of your apprenticeship.

NAVY TRADES

Electronics Technician

Marine Technician
(Mechanical or Electrical)

Aviation Technician - Aircraft

Aviation Technician - Avionics

No other apprenticeship offers you the travel and mateship that you'll find in the Navy.

Despite what you might think, not all trade apprenticeships are the same. The Navy's technical trade schools are second to none, with excellent teacher/student ratios and top shelf equipment and facilities that provide you with the best qualifications possible in the fields of mechanical and electrical trades. Qualifications are nationally recognised and highly sought after in the civilian world.



You'll be paid a great wage while you train with
a guaranteed job when you finish. Starting on \$25,100.p.a.,
you'll earn over \$45,900.p.a. after training. You'll also
receive a \$9,200.p.a. seagoing allowance.



You'll enjoy all sorts of
benefits like free medical
and dental, subsidised
meals and accommodation.



Call 13 19 01 or visit www.defencejobs.gov.au

UP & COMING

TV on the go

Take television viewing to greater heights. Anna Raciti looks at the cool new ways to watch TV.

In this issue, you'll find out how to be entertained anywhere — watch movies, play games and listen to music wherever you are. But you can't talk about entertainment without considering the good ol' telly. Fortunately, TV viewers are starting to see software and hardware devices designed to give the ultimate control over television viewing, while allowing you to watch your favourite programs wherever you are.

One of the most exciting things to happen to television in a long time is the digital video recorder (DVR), also referred to as a personal video recorder (PVR). It's a hard drive-based

recording device that records your TV content while allowing you to control it. You can pause, rewind or slow down a show as it's being aired; the content gets stored on disk as a file. These devices have been popular in the US for years (the TiVo being a great example), but are virtually unknown here. Foxtel's iQ set-top box is perhaps the most prominent example of a DVR in Australia. LG is rumoured to be releasing its HDTV PVR in Australia soon, and if it does, other vendors probably won't take long to follow.

If you don't want to wait around for a DVR, consider a program from SnapStream Media (www.snapstream.com)

The Slingbox takes your television feed and sends it to your broadband connected PC — wherever it happens to be.



that actually turns your PC into a DVR. SnapStream's Beyond TV will do most of the cool stuff that a DVR will do. All you need is a TV tuner card in your PC, with the processing and storage left to your computer.

To supplement its flagship product, the company also offers Beyond TV Link — software that allows all the PCs in your home to have DVR functionality. All you need is a home network (wired or wireless), and the software will allow you to stream the content from one PC to other PCs on your home network.

If you want to take the TV streaming experience beyond the home, look out for a new

product currently available in the US called the Slingbox. The Slingbox (www.slingmedia.com) is a little device that connects to your TV, pay TV set-top box or to a PC with a TV tuner. The Slingbox then lets you view the broadcast on a broadband-connected PC anywhere in the world. As long as the PC or notebook has the Slingbox viewer software installed, you can log onto your Slingbox and watch whatever signal it is connected to. You can even change channels. Those who've tested the Slingbox say the video quality is much better than what you would expect for video transferred via the Internet.

HELP STATION REPORT

Reader solutions

You don't have to be a Help Station expert to have a good idea, writes Paul Zuckerman.

Search Help Station for the word *upgrade* and you'll find more than 700 matching questions. Change the search term to *upgrad** to find variations and there are over 1,000 matching questions. Not surprising considering the nature of Help Station and the number of questions that have been answered over the years.

Back in July, reader Rashid wrote in to ask: how can I update this 800MHz PIII?, listing the specs of a typical PC a

few years old. Terry O'Shanassy started answering the question.

"Sorry Rashid, but I can't, in good conscience, answer your question in the way you'd like. The simple matter is, most of the components in that PC are so outdated that they're incompatible with anything newer."

He went on to explain why almost no new components would mesh with the older ones, ranging from the motherboard to CPU to RAM and so on. He then explained

that a so-called 'upgrade' was usually best done by starting from scratch with a build-it-yourself bundle.

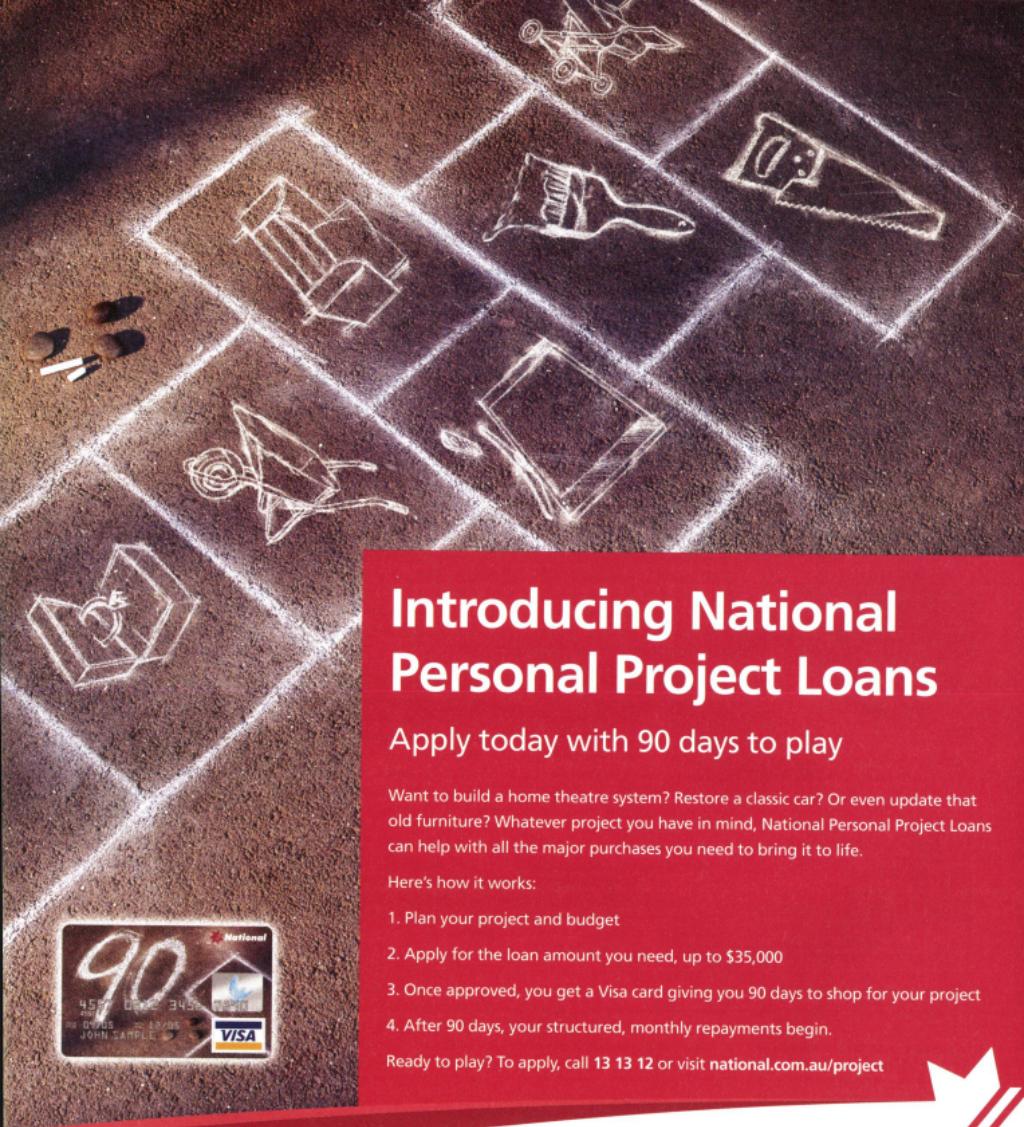
All of this made perfect sense, but it soon became obvious that there was another side to the story. Many Help Station readers wrote in to point out that Rashid's 800MHz PIII would have been a good system when bought, and there was no reason why it shouldn't be working just as well today, with a little housekeeping.

Unless Rashid had some recent applications such as games that needed a fast machine, he still had something that would run Windows XP (perhaps with a little more

RAM) and all the usual applications.

Some readers quite rightly suggested that if Rashid was absolutely intent on tweaking, he could make some small improvements such as buying a slightly faster processor on eBay. Purchasing second hand equipment at computer fairs or on the Internet can indeed be a cheap and easy way to upgrade your old machine!

And if you decide that it's too much trouble or if your upgrade doesn't work out as well as you expected, there will probably always be someone out there who will appreciate your old PC — no matter how outdated it may be. ☺



Introducing National Personal Project Loans

Apply today with 90 days to play

Want to build a home theatre system? Restore a classic car? Or even update that old furniture? Whatever project you have in mind, National Personal Project Loans can help with all the major purchases you need to bring it to life.

Here's how it works:

1. Plan your project and budget
2. Apply for the loan amount you need, up to \$35,000
3. Once approved, you get a Visa card giving you 90 days to shop for your project
4. After 90 days, your structured, monthly repayments begin.

Ready to play? To apply, call 13 13 12 or visit national.com.au/project



Proud Partner – Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games



Terms and conditions available upon application. Fees and charges apply. Subject to the National's standard credit assessment criteria. Minimum loan amounts apply. © 2005 National Australia Bank Limited ABN 12 004 044 937 N104810/APUM

Letter of the month

Great customer service



Prize for the letter of the month

Designed specifically for notebook computers, the Microsoft Wireless Notebook Optical Mouse, valued at \$69.95, delivers users both portable comfort and performance. It combines the perfect mix of comfort and mobility, making it the ideal travelling companion.

PRIVACY NOTICE

This issue of *PC User* may contain offers, competitions or surveys which require you to provide information about yourself if you choose to enter or take part in them (Reader Offer).

If you provide information about yourself to ACP Magazines Ltd (ACP), ACP will use this information to provide you with the products or services you have requested, and may supply your information to contractors that help ACP to do this. ACP will also use your information to inform you of other ACP publications, products, services and events. ACP may also give your information to organisations that are providing special prizes or offers and that are clearly associated with the Reader Offer.

Unless you tell us not to, we may give your information to other organisations that may use it to inform you about other products, services or events or to give it to other organisations that may use it for this purpose.

If you would like to gain access to the information ACP holds about you, please contact ACP's Privacy Officer at ACP Magazines Ltd, 54-58 Park Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000.

I am a regular subscriber to your magazine and enjoy it very much, even though

I am somewhat of a neophyte when it comes to a lot of the technical matters you write about. But I am learning a lot through the magazine and I occasionally have cause to use your recommendations to begin a search for good equipment at fair prices.

I find your reviews very helpful and cannot agree with the critique you received and which you wrote about in your August edition. I will never purchase equipment from any company that does not submit its technology to a comparative review by technical experts, because I always believe that they must have something to hide if they are not willing to have their products publicly scrutinised. In addition, as I am very inexperienced in the technology field, I am totally reliant on those with the expertise to test and make recommendations.

Recently I searched my back copies of your magazine and used your April 2005 edition to find a new computer system. I decided that the Samoy 200 supplied by Reda Computer Technology in Sydney was the best value for me, combining great technology for my small business and at a fantastic price of only \$1,499. Your review gave it a score of 7 out of 10, but it was perfect for my office system. I could not find another computer with the same features for the price anywhere else and could not believe that I could get so much technology for that price.

I checked the Reda Web site, but the Samoy 200 was not listed for general sale. However, when I phoned them and mentioned your review in *PC User*, they said it was still available at the same price, but

with an improved LCD screen with a faster refresh time! Being as cynical as I am, I had expected at least an increase in price and possibly less technology for the dollar! My cynicism was totally unfounded.

I ordered it by email on a Wednesday morning at 11:00, adding extra dollars for Windows XP Professional and a second LCD screen at an excellent price. I paid for it by bank transfer at 12:00 noon and it was despatched that afternoon, arriving by mail in my country town in Victoria two days later. It arrived well packaged and undamaged with all discs and manuals in place.

I installed it over the weekend and it was up and running without a hitch on the Monday when the staff came in to work. The service from Reda was fantastic, the attention to questions I asked on the phone was great and the equipment is superb – it looks and runs like a dream! And I just love the LCD screen and the overall speed of the system.

Well done Reda and thank you *PC User* for your help with this purchase. I am one very happy customer.

Jeff Barlow
Healesville, Vic

*The writer of the best letter to *PC User* each month wins a prize. Just send your letter of no more than 300 words to *PC User* (see 'How to contact us', page 10), and please include your postal address and daytime telephone number. Entry is open to all residents of Australia other than employees of ACP Magazines. Entries for October close on August 17. The judges' decision is final. All entries become the property of ACP Magazines.*

More tutorials

I've been a big fan of *Australian*

PC User for over three years now, and to my mind it represents the best value for money in a PC magazine. You have a first-class set of writers and your cover discs save me an eternity in download time!

However, the recent changes are not all perfect. Although I applaud your tutorials and their video accompaniments, it seems a shame they only seem to apply to the cover disc freebies. How about some tutorials on Adobe Premiere, Encore or Audition? For that matter why not have some tutorials on Microsoft Office or Adobe PageMaker or Ulead DVD Workshop? Most of us would love to see some of the commercial packages put through their paces before shelling out the huge cost for them. What does *PC User* give us instead? A one-paragraph review! Hardly exhaustive.

And talking about reviews, why don't you ever seem to review hardware offerings from Dick Smith Electronics? Virtually all of your readers have bought something or other from this big boy's toyshop. Many of us get our first viewing of new technology on its hallowed shelves. But does your magazine ever compare Dick's hardware with the big names? Never! Come on *PC User*, make your magazine even better and review some of Mr. Smith's goodies from time to time.

And how about relegating the children's games pages to the back pages again, where they belong!

Roger Pittman
Nelson, New Zealand

Cheap ink

I wanted to talk about my experiences using cheap ink to refill my inkjet cartridges. I have been refilling cartridges for several years, and now regularly refill without \odot

Make MASSIVE Savings On Your Phone Bills!

Make and receive calls with an engin Voice Box

(plug into a standard phone)



or



engin Xpro Softphone

(call via your PC or laptop)

- Free delivery • 1 month's free service fee • 30 day trial period
- Including a standard Australian telephone number • No lock-in contracts



Monthly service fee of \$29.95[^]
gets you:

- local calls 10c untimed, anytime
- calls to Australian capital cities 10c untimed, anytime
- engin to engin free of any engin charges
- national calls 5c per minute
- calls to mobiles 29c per minute

Plus your choice of free calls:

- 250 local calls **or**
- \$25 national **or**
- \$25 international **or**
- \$25 to mobiles

* 3.5c per minute to UK, Ireland, USA, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Germany and New Zealand.

www.engin.com.au
or call 1300 305 000

 **engin**[™]

The Broadband Phone Company

Available from these leading retailers:



[^]An engin Voice Box or Softphone, broadband Internet connection and Ethernet modem/router may be required. Broadband access and standard phone line rental charges excluded. Calls may attract separate ISP charges. Call charges are rounded up to the nearest cent before GST. Timed calls are billed for the first minute, thereafter billed per second. For other call type charges, monthly billing details and our Standard Form of Agreement go to engin.com.au. Calls made to PSTN numbers outside your local calling area will be charged at standard engin rates. Australian telephone number subject to geographic area. Free \$'s included are forfeited at the end of your billing cycle. engin Voice Box is soft coded to function with engin networks. Credit card or charge card billing only - subject to credit approval. * Higher rates may apply for calls to mobile phones eng105

gloves and without spillage. I have used ink from a number of suppliers without any real problems. The difference in cost is considerable, at around \$35 for an original cartridge and \$3 for a refill.

With my current printer, the best I have obtained is four refills, although with my previous printer, the best was 12 refills. I only use original cartridges, and the only problem I have had is the need to dry out the refill ink when printing on light cardboard to avoid smudging.

Bernard Rubens
Internet

Interstate vendors

I've just bought the August edition of *PC User*. I bought it mainly to read your articles on motherboards and the reviews of PCs. Unfortunately, by the time I got it home and started to read it, the memory kicked in and I remembered previous articles reviewing computers, where the suppliers are basically all from NSW.

While the article on PCs is

very good, it doesn't help too much if you happen to live in Victoria. It appears only HP and Rectron (a top-end video product) could be sourced in Victoria. As your magazine is an Australian magazine, surely you should be attempting to include more products from other states. I realise it is much more difficult, however, on the assumption that sales in Sydney account for 50% of your circulation, then the value of the article is significantly reduced to half your readers.

Even if the information for other states was available on your Web site, it would at least help. The article is basically to assist readers in buying an appropriate PC within a price range, and it doesn't achieve that purpose if you live somewhere other than Sydney.

Bob Andrew

Internet

Thanks for your letter. You may be interested to know that we go to a lot of trouble to get vendors to send systems in for review. We would be thrilled to get PC builders from Victoria

to send in systems to us, but we get a considerable number of knockbacks each time we send out requests for review systems, from big and small companies alike. Whether it's because our PC testing is a little bit too rigorously for some vendors, I don't know. It may be that some vendors don't like the fact that we request systems to specifications that we think readers would like, rather than simply accepting what vendors would prefer we tested.

As we've done in the past, I'll send out an open invitation again. If you're a PC vendor in any state of Australia, or even New Zealand for that matter, and you're interested in submitting PCs for review, please contact us at pcuser@pcuser.com.au. We'll include you in our database and let you know about future 'Best-value PC' or 'PC mega test' features.

As it is, my understanding is that most of the vendors that participate in our PC features will ship systems around Australia — you only have to ask them.

— Darren Yates

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY: MEDIAGATE MG-35 SUBS PROMOTION

1. Information on how to enter and prize forms part of these conditions of entry.

2. Entry is open to all residents of Australia who subscribe or renew their subscription to *PC User* between 03/08/05 and 06/09/05 (inclusive (for a minimum period of 12 months)). Entry is automatic upon subscription and subject to the correct use of a valid credit card or, if payment is made by cheque, the cheque must be cleared for payment. Subscriptions are to be sent by mail to *PC User*, Reply Paid 3357, Sydney, NSW 2001; or made by telephone on freecall 13 61 16 or via the Internet at www.pcuser.magspace.com.au. Employees and their immediate families of the Promoter, and its agencies associated with this promotion are ineligible to enter. This offer is not valid in conjunction with any other offer. Only one entry per person per subscription.

3. The Promoter reserves the right to verify the validity of entries and to disqualify any entrant who tampers with the entry process or who submits an entry that is not in accordance with these Conditions of Entry.

4. Promotional period commences 03/08/05 and closes 23-59 EST on 06/09/05. All entries will be collated to go into the one draw to ensure that each entrant has a fair and equal chance of winning. The draw will take place at 11:00 EST at the Promoter's premises, 54-58 Park Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 on 19/09/05. The winners will be notified by mail or telephone (using contact details provided in the subscription) and their names will be published in the Public Notices section of *The Australian* on 03/10/05. Judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

5. The first 10 valid entries drawn will each win an AL Tech MediaGate MG-35 valued at \$299 each. Total prize pool valued at \$2,990. Prizes are not transferable or exchangeable and cannot be taken as cash. The Promoter is neither responsible nor liable for any change in the value of the prize occurring between the date this magazine is published and the date the prize is claimed.

6. The Promoter may conduct such further draws at the same place as the original draw as are necessary at 11:00 EST on 24/01/06 in order to distribute any prizes that remain unclaimed by that date, subject however to any written directions given under Reg 37 of the Lottery and Gaming Regulations 1993 (SA). In the event of any winners in the unclaimed prize draw, their names will be published in *The Australian* on 06/02/06. 7. The Promoter shall not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever which is suffered (including but not limited to indirect or consequential loss) or for any personal injury suffered or sustained in connection with the prize except for any liability, which cannot be excluded by law.

8. The Promoter accepts no responsibility for late, lost or misdirected entries. The Promoter accepts no responsibility for prizes damaged in transit.

9. The Promoter is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, either caused by the phone user or Web site user or for any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilised in this competition, or for any technical error, or any combination thereof that may occur in the course of the administration of this competition including any

omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line or telephone, mobile or satellite network failure, technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or Web site, software failure, theft or destruction or unauthorised access to or alteration of entries and any injury or damage to participants or any other person's computer related to or resulting from participation in or downloading any materials in this competition.

10. If for any reason this competition is not capable of running as planned (including but not limited to) technical failures, unauthorised intervention, fraud or any other causes beyond the control of the Promoter which corrupts or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of this competition, the Promoter reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any individual who tampers with the entry process, and, subject to any written directions given by the various Lottery Departments, to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the competition.

11. All entries become the property of the Promoter.

12. The collection, use and disclosure of personal information provided in connection with this competition is governed by the Privacy Notice (see contents page for location in this issue).

13. The Promoter is ACP Merchandise Pty Ltd (ABN 18 053 273 546) of 54-58 Park Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. Authorised under NSW Permit No: TPL05/7425. ACT Permit No: TP05/2645. NT Permit No: NT05/2153. SA Permit No: T05/2621.

AD INDEX

Acer	2, 3
ACO	132
Adobe	13
Atelch Computers	140
Anyware	
Computer Accessories	131, 133
ASUS	4, 5
ATI	126, 127
Big Ben	130
Canon	128, 129
Corporate Software	128, 129
Creative Labs	128
Dodo	29
Email4Life	25
Engin	19, 23, 57, 85
Epson	31
Esprit	55
Fujitsu	11
Government	15
HP	37
Inventa	141
Keyland Associates	138
LaCie	47
Linksys	21
MicroGram	137
Mitsubishi Electric	53
National Australia Bank	17
Netcomm	41
Netcomp	59
Netgear	33
Optus	126
OTC Computer	136, 139
Power Computers	61
Rectron	142
Region 4	51
Shuttle	43
TEG Computers	134, 135
TPG Internet	63
Transcend	27
Universal Enterprises	117
Verbatim	39

Explore the Linksys solution

Everything you want for your networking needs



Compact Size! Big Wireless Performance!

Limited in space? Travel a lot?

With the Linksys Compact Internet-Sharing Wireless Router, you can start a superfast Wireless-G (802.11g) network anywhere!

WRT54GC

Compact Wireless-G Broadband Router

- Complies with 802.11g and 802.11b (2.4GHz) Standards
- Unsurpassed Wireless Security with Wi-Fi Protected Access™ (WPA/WPA2 Personal)
- Compact travel size router with built-in antenna
- Connect an optional external antenna to increase reception and range (external antenna not included)



ADSL2MUE

ADSL2/2+ Modem with USB and Ethernet

- High Speed ADSL2/2+ modem gives you a fast, "always on" connection to the Internet
- Up to 24Mbps download speeds, 400 times faster than dial-up analog modems
- Shares your existing telephone lines to connect to the Internet, without tying up the phone
- Connects to your PC over 10/100 Ethernet or USB



AG241

ADSL2/2+ Gateway with 4-Port Switch

- High Speed ADSL2/2+ modem gives you a fast, "Always On" connection to the Internet
- Connect your PCs via the built-in Router and 4-port Switch to jump start your Ethernet network and share the Internet throughout your household
- Advanced firewall and security features protect your PCs, your data, and your family
- Compatible with ADSL1/ADSL2 and ADSL2+ standards



WAG54G

Wireless G ADSL2/2+ Gateway

- High-speed ADSL2/2+ modem gives you a fast, "Always On" connection to the Internet
- Advanced Firewall, Content Filtering and Security features protect your PCs, your data, and your family
- Built-in Wireless-G (802.11g) Access Point also lets you connect without running wires
- Supports up to 5 IPSec (Des, 3-Des, MD-5, SHA-1) VPN End Points

Specifications are subject to change without notice. Copyright 2005 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.



Big on looks

The PC User team tests the latest hardware and software, including a 5MP digital camera with some stunning features.

OUR PRICES

The prices provided in *PC User's* product reviews are generally recommended retail, but because actual pricing is often significantly less, we've tried to use online retail prices whenever possible. The prices were accurate, as supplied by vendors or as advertised on Australian retail Web sites, as of mid July. Note that prices change rapidly and can vary significantly between retailers, so we strongly recommend shopping around yourself. Start with Web sites such as www.hc.com.au, www.corsoft.com.au and www.statice.com.au and even an Australian search of www.google.com.au. Remember to check out the delivery fees and other charges.

Panasonic DMC-FZ5

With optical resolutions and pixel counts on the climb and prices continuing their freefall, digital still cameras are improving at a rate of knots. That's made abundantly clear by Panasonic's new DMC-FZ5.

Packing in a 12x optical zoom Leica lens with a big 5MP CCD sensor, the DMC-FZ5 still manages to maintain a compact styling. There's a pop-up flash and an electronic through-the-lens viewfinder in addition to the 1.8in LCD screen and a SecureDigital (SD) flash memory slot. Panasonic gives you a 16MB SD card, but with 1GB cards selling for little more than \$110 these days, there'll be no more excuses for missing your favourite shots.

Panasonic's Optical Image Stabiliser will steady any wobbly handwork, and you can capture images at maximum zoom at

Price: \$769
Contact: Panasonic
Phone: 13 26 00 **Web:** www.panasonic.com.au
12X optical zoom lens + Optical Image stabiliser – Proprietary Li-ion battery



lower shutter speeds and still get excellent shots. The image quality of this unit was impressive in our tests, and while the lighting was generally excellent, images were just a touch soft in our opinion. However, there's no denying the pulling power of that 12X optical zoom lens and its 36 to 432mm 35mm-equivalent range. The detail you can pull in is the sort of thing you would have needed an expensive telephoto lens for not many months ago.

One feature we weren't so keen on was the proprietary Lithium Ion (LiIon)



rechargeable battery. It's great for convenience, but if it goes flat while you're on the road, you'll need a spare on hand. There's no going to the local supermarket for replacement batteries for this camera.

Panasonic has the retail price on the DMC-FZ5 at \$879, but the excellent DMC-FZ20 has the same megapixel count and optical zoom (but we think better image quality) and is now down to just \$989. It might be worth looking at the latter if you're after something a little more serious.

As it is, for a compact camera, the DMC-FZ5 is definitely an upward move from the old DMC-FZ3, but take a look at the DMC-FZ20 first.

— Darren Yates

MSI MEGA mPC 800K



Price: \$449 **Contact:** MSI Computer Australia **Phone:** (02) 9748 0070 **Web:** www.msicomputer.com.au + Easy to set up + Integrated Wi-Fi + DDR400 speed problems

and we mentioned, the system only supports the older Socket 754 Athlon 64 Sempron CPUs. This does limit your upgrade options somewhat, but there's still plenty of performance to be had from Socket 754 CPUs.

In our testing, we used DDR400 memory, but the system would only run it at DDR333. Even after setting the memory speed manually in the BIOS, we still could not get it to run at DDR400. Its performance was alright, with Business

Winstone scoring 34.8 using a Athlon 64 3200+. This is a better result than the previous MSI SFF PC we tested, which used a 3.4GHz Pentium 4 CPU. The onboard S3 graphics had real trouble with 3D our gaming tests, and *Unreal Tournament 2003* averaged only 15.9 frames per second (fps) at 1,024 by 768. That said, there is an AGP slot if you want to add in a more powerful graphics card. The mPC 800 K was also very quiet



for a SFF PC. This is a decent system at a good price.

— Nick Mailath

TEST RESULTS

VeriTest Business Winstone 2002	34.8
VeriTest Multimedia Content Creation Winstone 2003	Did not finish
Unreal tournament 2003 (1,024 by 768) average/fps	15.9/4.5
Tested with an AMD Athlon 64 3200+ processor, integrated VIA/53 graphics, 1GB DDR RAM and a 40GB Western Digital hard drive.	

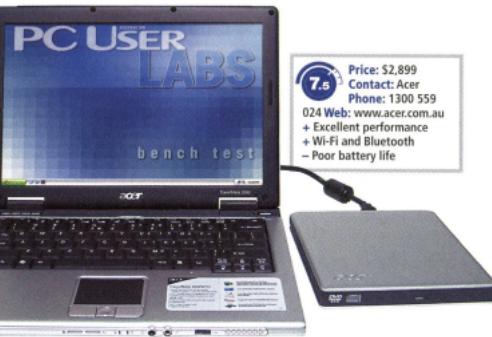
Acer TravelMate 3002WTCi

Things have been heating up in the ultraportable notebook market recently, and Acer has enthusiastically joined the fray with its new sub-1.5kg TravelMate 3002WTCi.

Ultimately though, we were a bit disappointed with certain features of this notebook, not the least of which was the battery life. While Acer claims it can give up to 6.5 hours, thanks to two bundled LiIon rechargeable batteries, we were only able to gain 1 hour 39 minutes in full-performance mode (no power management) from the default 2000mAh battery. We estimate you'd be able to get another 4 hours from the second larger 4800mAh battery, but this means carrying it around too. The other feature we weren't all that keen on was the external optical drive. Being external was bad enough, given

that Dell's equally tiny Inspiron 700m features an integrated optical drive, but the fact that Acer only gives you a CD-RW/DVD-ROM combo drive doesn't go down well. We've reviewed full-sized Acer notebooks in the past, which have included DVD burners for \$1,699.

In terms of performance, it did pretty well, with an office benchmark score that would keep most 3GHz plus Pentium 4 desktop systems on their toes. While you can forget 3D gaming (5.5fps at 640 by 480 pixels on *DOOM 3* isn't playable), the 12.1in 1,280 by 800-pixel resolution is ideal for DVD movies. The 60GB IDE hard drive is one of the fastest we've tested, with an average data transfer speed of 6,840KB per



second. You've also got two wireless networking options onboard, with Intel's own 802.11b/g Wi-Fi networking and built-in Bluetooth to connect to your mobile phone. There's even a multiformat flash memory reader on the right-hand side, along with the usual fast Ethernet and V.92 modem. All up, the TravelMate 3002WTCi

has some great features, but poor battery life and no DVD burner for \$2,899 stick in the craw a bit. Otherwise, this is a reasonable unit.

— Darren Yates

Toshiba Qosmio G20

The Toshiba Qosmio is a full-featured media centre PC that has somehow been squeezed into a notebook shell, although because it tips the scales at a little over 4.3kg and a battery life of just 55 minutes with all power management off, it doesn't really qualify as portable. Its features rival that of any desktop media centre PC with a rippling 2GHz Pentium M CPU, 1,024MB of RAM, GeForce Go 6600 graphics, a 17in widescreen display, two 80GB hard drives and even a built-in TV tuner.

There are plenty of other little things that enhance the media experience, such as the rotary volume knob, media

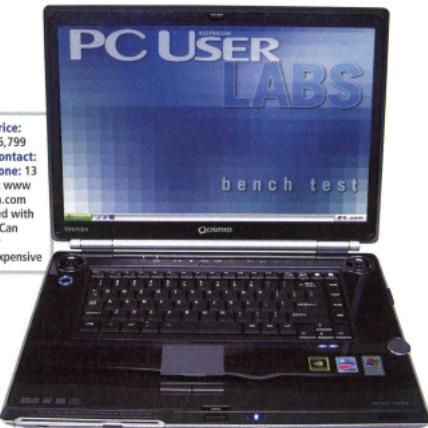
playback remote control, component video out and Harmon/Kardon speakers. The G20's screen is very bright when using mains power and still remains decent, even when using the battery power-saving mode. It has good viewing angles and is fast enough to display high-motion video without any trouble. The two integrated 80GB hard drives will give you plenty of room to store all your media, too.

The G20 packs a fair-sized punch when it comes to performance, too. It averaged a respectable 63.6fps in *DOOM 3* at 1,024 by 768. Our business and multimedia

7.5	Price: \$2,899 Contact: Acer Phone: 1300 559 024 Web: www.acer.com.au
	+ Excellent performance + Wi-Fi and Bluetooth - Poor battery life

TEST RESULTS

VeriTest Business Winstone 2002	31.8
VeriTest Business Disk WinMark 99	6,840KB/s
VeriTest BatteryMark 4.01	1 hour 39 minutes
DOOM 3 timdemo at 640 by 480 pixels	5.5fps



Make MASSIVE Savings
On Your Phone Bills!

engin
The Broadband Phone Company
www.engin.com.au Hotline: 1300 305 000

benchmarks encountered a few problems with this system due to incompatibilities with Windows XP Media Center Edition. However, judging from the gaming scores alone, we think it'd be safe to say that the

G20 will be able to handle any office application or encoding task set before it with gusto, especially given its high-spec hardware.

The Qosmio's one real flaw is price — all these goodies come

at a pretty hefty cost. However, if you're after the best of the best in multimedia notebooks, and you're willing to pay a very pretty penny for it, the G20 is well worth considering.

— Nick Mailath

D-Link AirPlus G DWL-G730AP

The G DWL-G730AP is the Swiss army knife of wireless networking gizmos. Small enough to easily fit in a shirt pocket, it has three wireless 802.11g LAN modes to suit all occasions: it can act as a client, access point or router. Selecting a mode is as easy as flicking a switch on the bottom. It also has a single RJ45 Ethernet port for connection to a local area network. In client mode, it connects a single computer to a wireless LAN.

A bundled Ethernet cable provides the wired connection from the computer to the device. In access point mode, the Ethernet connection is

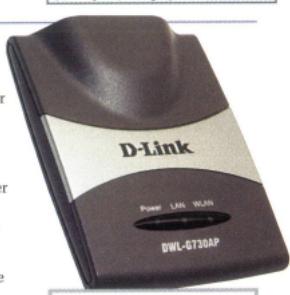
plugged into a hub on a wired LAN. The DWL-G730AP then provides wireless connections to the LAN for multiple computers.

In router mode, the Ethernet port is cabled to a broadband modem. It has the usual router features, including PPPoE login clients for connection to broadband ISPs and a firewall. NAT shares a single connection with multiple computers and a DHCP server allocates IP addresses. However, all LAN connections are wireless, as there are no spare Ethernet ports for a wired LAN.

The DWL-G730AP's wireless performance was very good.

During testing, we saw similar signal strength and data throughput to a desktop wireless access point. The device can be powered via a plug pack, or from a computer via a short cable with a USB plug at one end and a coaxial power plug at the other. A zippered pouch keeps all the bits and pieces together while travelling. However, it lacks a bridge mode, and can't wirelessly connect dumb devices such as printers.

The multipurpose DWL-G730AP will solve many problems for travellers, presenters and network administrators. LAN technicians



B Price: \$149 Contact: D-Link Phone: 1300 766 868 Web: www.dlink.com.au + Compact and easy to carry + Multifunctional - No bridge mode

will find it an indispensable troubleshooting tool.

— John Hepworth

Sony ACID Pro 5

For some years now, ACID Pro has been the premiere composing and mixing tool for loop- and sample-based music creation, remixes and DJ sequencing. The ACID loop format has actually become the default standard for this style of music creation.

While great at what it first set out to be, ACID has never been a fully featured music production tool. This latest release goes further towards making ACID a comprehensive music production tool.

Like its stablemate Vegas, ACID now includes a very powerful media manager for

handling all your samples, including the 1,000 plus provided with the package. This makes finding what you need much easier. Nested folders are now supported for managing larger projects, plus bus-to-bus routing for complex mixes and effect send paths. Simple things like reversing a clip directly in the timeline, and dropping in loops during playback for live mixing are now possible. A metronome has also been added to better match prerecorded tracks when doing a remix, for example.

The MIDI side is gradually getting there with new Groove

B Price: \$439 Contact: New Magic Phone: (02) 9528 4555 Web: www.sonymediasoftware.com + Excellent media manager + ReWire support - MIDI features still maturing

Mapping quantisation, ReWire support for ACID to be a host or an instrument, VST effects finally supported and, most importantly perhaps, a MIDI piano roll editor.

Aside from the wealth of loops and samples provided,

you also get a copy of Sony Audio Studio for editing .wav files, and three great VSTi softsynths from Native Instruments.

— Phillip Moore

Opera 8

Most companies give their browsers away, so are there any compelling reasons why you should fork out around \$50 to use Opera 8, or put up with ads in the free version? Perhaps one:

security. Opera's unique browser engine and its lack of popularity make it notably less prone to attacks than any of its competitors. Version 8 also helps identify phishing attempts by marking and rating encrypted pages. If you want more than

B Price: US\$39 Web: www.opera.com + Excellent RSS support + Stuffed with features - Flawed JavaScript support



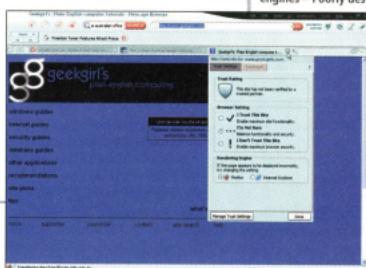
security, there's plenty that's appealing about Opera 8, but little that is compelling. This new version cleans up the overly cluttered interface of previous releases, but is still busy enough to be disconcerting to beginners. Its RSS support is the best of any browser. The handy garbage bin lets you open any recently closed pages. Its HotClick feature lets you double-click any word to get a

pop-up menu full of options, including translation and audio pronunciation. It lets you zoom in on pages and also lets you stretch and shrink pages without losing any content. On the downside, its JavaScript support is flawed, it has flaky PDF support and it opens all windows within the one container, making things very crowded.

So, Opera for \$50 or Firefox for nothing? Firefox gets my vote, but I'm happy to have the

advertising-supported version of Opera on my PC.

— Rose Vines



6 **Price:** Free Web: <http://browser.netscape.com/ns8/>
+ Choice of browsing engines — Poorly designed interface
— Laughable RSS support

Netscape 8

AOL's marketing philosophy seems to be 'pander to the lowest common denominator'. In Netscape 8's case, that approach unfortunately sabotages what would otherwise be a pretty decent browser.

For example, take its RSS support. It absorbs huge amounts of screen real estate

and is horribly implemented, but oh my, it looks so cute. On the other hand, Netscape's ability to use both the Internet Explorer and the Firefox/Mozilla Gecko browsing engines makes it the most compatible, most flexible of all browsers. What a contrast in dumb and brilliant.

More contrasts include the menus, which are shunted up into the title bar, giving you a complete row of extra space for browsing. That's a great idea,

except the toolbars beneath are so capacious, they chew up all that space. The window controls are so close to the Security Center controls, you're bound to end up clicking the wrong one at some time.

Solid features such as tabbed browsing, customisable pop-up blocking and extensive form-

filling tools are counterbalanced by so-called 'localisation' features, which work only with US zip codes. It also offers easily accessible and extensive security controls, but it has the impertinence to add its own set of sites to the 'Trusted Sites' list — a real no-no.

— Rose Vines

Personalised lifetime* email address

Lifetime addresses are very popular in the US and Europe and are now available in Australia through Email4Life.com.au



- * An email address that never changes regardless of how many times you change ISP
- * An email address that is easy for your family and friends to remember
- * An email address that is owned by you not your ISP

For more information visit www.Email4Life.com.au

Email4Life.com.au

One life, one e-mail

* Conditions apply - see website for details

Media centre PCs

After a PC to sit alongside your TV?
Darren Yates tests the latest media centre systems.

Home theatre is grabbing consumers by storm, yet the days of DVD's rule in the lounge room may be coming to an end as digital TV and high-definition (HD) disc formats set to stake their claim. We sent out the call to PC vendors large and small this month, asking them to send in their best-value media centre PCs. To qualify, these systems

need to be capable of handling everything you'd need in a PC that's designed to sit at the centre of a home entertainment system.

We gave the vendors no price limit and no further instructions, but to a unit, they all supplied systems with Microsoft's Windows XP Media Center Edition (MCE) operating system.

• What else we found

Despite Microsoft's continued failed support of Australian high-definition digital TV with this operating system, all bar one of our systems this month featured at least one digital TV tuner card.

PC eXpress Phoenix 1060A

Local vendor PC eXpress tore up the competition in our PC mega test last month and has carried its form into this roundup as well. The Phoenix 1060A was not only one of the cheaper models we tested, but it was also clearly the best, with excellent all-round performance. It was the only system to crack the 60 mark on our multimedia content creation benchmark and the only one to go past 100 frames per second (fps) on *DOOM 3* at 1,024 by 768-pixel resolution. This result is thanks to a GeForce 6800 GT graphics card, the most potent we saw for the feature. There's not much else missing in this system either, packing dual LG optical

drives, including the GSA-4163B 16x DVD burner with double-layer burning support.

There's hard disk space to burn in the form of two 200GB Western Digital drives. Although we saw more space in the Marvel Media Centre 3400i, the Phoenix 1060A still took the lead for speed.

This unit also featured a 19in Mitsubishi DV997FD CRT monitor and, after our roundup of monitors on page 48, we think this is a smart move. Too many LCD monitors are great for personal, direct-in-front use, but very few have the viewing angles to allow others to watch movies with you. And that's where CRT monitors still reign

While the first round of MCE systems earlier this year lacked sufficient storage, this time around we've seen considerable improvement, with one PC packing in a cool half-terabyte (500GB) of hard disk space.

Some vendors went to the trouble of offering classy-looking cases, but sadly, these often came at the expense of system performance, typically in the 3D gaming department.

Given the pricing of these systems ranged between \$1,599 and \$3,099 (with the majority well over \$2,500), it was difficult not to be disappointed with the overall value on offer when compared with some of the systems we saw in last month's

PC mega test (see *PC User* August, page 28).

Clearly, some vendors consider 3D gaming an optional extra for some consumers. This may well be appropriate in some cases, but it's important that you don't assume 'home theatre' means guaranteed gaming speed.

Other systems sacrificed styling for the sake of performance. The problem with this is that you end up with an ugly computer box smack-bang in the middle of your lounge room. Judging from what we saw, the perfect home theatre PC appears to be some way off, but at least some improvements have been made.



supreme. Their higher resolutions and superior viewing angles make them the best choice for 3D gaming and DVD movies.

If there is a feature lacking here, it's FireWire, but it's nothing a \$35 PCI expansion card can't fix. All up, while we wouldn't call this the perfect system to act as a home entertainment PC, it is the only one we think will truly handle everything from games to movies.



Price: \$2,550 **Contact:** PC eXpress **Phone:** (02) 9584 0567 **Web:** www.pc-express.com.au + Digital TV tuner card + Excellent performance + Excellent storage

Marvel Computers Media Centre 3400i

Marvel Computers was one of the few vendors to include an Intel Pentium 4 processor this month, and it managed to put together a pretty impressive system. It's built around the new 3.4GHz Pentium 4 551 with Intel's EM64T 64-bit processing (by contrast, the 550 has the

same 1MB of L2 cache, but no EM64T; the 650 has 2MB). We carried out specific video encoding tests on all of the systems we tested this month, and found that thanks to its CPU, this one was the fastest of the lot.

It packed in half a terabyte

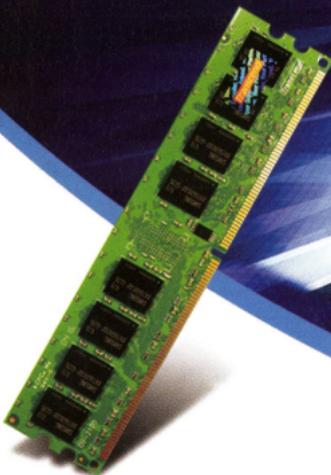
(500GB) of hard disk space as well as the excellent Pioneer DVR-109 DVD burner for what were the best storage specs in the roundup. Kworld's V-Stream DV-B-T PCI digital TV card allows for HDTV capture and playback, and you've got FireWire ports built in to

capture stuff from your digital video camera.

Its overall multimedia performance was great and on a par with the Acer Aspire T630, but with vastly improved 3D gaming. This was mostly thanks to Nvidia's GeForce 6600 GT graphics card, which

Transcend

Your Supplier, Your Partner,
Your Friend.

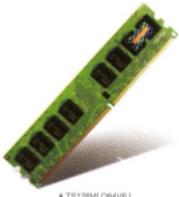


Rock-Solid Reliability Transcend Memory

DDR2-800

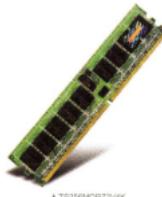
Super charged data transfer rates and maximum bandwidth make Transcend's latest DDR2-800 memory modules the only choice in order to get the ultimate power and performance from your system. The advanced physical architecture of DDR2 allows for four times the data transfer rates while operating at lower voltages and higher frequencies.

**1GB DDR2-667
Unbuffered
DIMM for Desktop**



- High speed at 667 MHz
- 1.8 volts operation, reducing power consumption by around 50 percent
- FBGA chip packages for improved electrical and heat dissipation characteristics
- Lifetime warranty

**2GB DDR2-400
Registered
DIMM for Server**



- On-Die Termination (ODT) technology to minimize memory signal reflections at higher speeds
- FBGA chip packages for improved electrical and heat dissipation characteristics
- Ten-layer PCB for higher reliability and stability
- Lifetime warranty

**1GB DDR2-533
SO-DIMM for Notebook**



- 100% compatible on notebooks adopted DDR2-DIMM
- High capacity up to 1GB
- Advanced chip packages for improved heat dissipation
- Superior design for higher reliability and stability
- Lifetime warranty

Authorized Distributors

cassaaustralia
TEL: (07) 3853-5444
www.cassa.com.au

Transcend Information, Inc.
www.transcendusa.com

*All brand names are the registered trademarks of their respective owners. Specifications subject to change without notice.

performed well on both *DOOM 3* and *Splinter Cell Chaos Theory* (SCCT).

Philips's 19in 190B6 LCD monitor is fine for personal use, but again, after our roundup of monitors this month, we

wouldn't recommend most LCD monitors for home theatre use.

All up, Marvel's Media Centre 3400i is a very good all-round system and well worth a look, despite the hefty price tag.



Price: \$2,795 **Contact:** Marvel Computers **Phone:** (02) 9680 9688 **Web:** www.marvelcomputers.com.au + 500GB of storage + Good 3D gaming + Pioneer DVD burner



TI Computers Media Center 1000

7.5 **Price:** \$1,599 **Contact:** TI Computers **Phone:** (02) 9437 5437 **Web:** www.ticomputers.com.au + Cheapest complete system + Digital TV tuner – No 3D graphics card



The TI Computers Media Center 1000 was the only complete system we saw for under \$2,000, matching its compact styling with an equally compact price tag of just \$1,599.

But along with that low price tag comes a correspondingly lower set of features. That said, it's still pretty decent value if your budget won't stretch beyond the \$1,600 mark.

The first glaring omission is 3D graphics. TI went for the integrated UniChrome II graphics solution onboard the Gigabyte GA-K8VM800 VIA-chipset motherboard. Because of this, we couldn't even get *DOOM 3* to load, let alone run.

While you still get 1GB of DDR400 memory, AMD's Athlon 64 3000+ processor and a single 200GB Maxtor hard drive are components with less value than you see elsewhere,

although still not too bad when compared with other systems at nearly double the price. The most amazing thing is that you still get a digital TV tuner card and the Microsoft Windows XP MCE operating system.

This isn't the fastest system under the sun, but for \$1,599, you'll be hard pressed to find any other system to compete at this price.

OTHER MEDIA CENTRE PCs TESTED

Emagen Aveye 1200



7 **Price:** \$1,700 **Contact:** Emagen **Phone:** 1300 880 070 **Web:** www.emagen.com.au + Dual HDTV cards + 400GB hard drive space – No monitor

Local vendor Emagen went the budget route with their media centre PC, but apart from the glaring lack of a monitor, the Aveye 1200 offers some pretty good value.

It matches the TI Computers Media Center 1000 with AMD's Athlon 64 3000+ processor, but was the only system in the roundup to offer only 512MB of memory. However, when you consider the \$1,700 price tag, Emagen has done pretty well.

This is a system aimed at those who watch TV and are quite happy with their PlayStation 2 or Xbox to play games, as there's no real 3D graphics capability in this box.

Packing in 400GB of RAID 0 storage in the form of two 200GB Seagate Serial ATA hard drives and the addition of Pioneer's DVR-109 double-layer DVD burner is one of the system's high points.

The standout feature, however, is the use of dual Ultraview DVB-T HDTV tuner cards. These were originally made by DVICO and are very good cards. With two, you can capture one HDTV channel while you watch another.

However, the underlying problem here is the lack of processing oomph. The Athlon 64 3000+ is a fair chip, but it doesn't really fly. The disk speed achieved in our tests from the RAID 0 array is also well below what we usually find.

If your budget won't reach to the \$2,500 plus level of most of these other systems, the Aveye 1200 is not a bad option.

PCQUEST Cinevue

Local vendor PCQUEST produced a solid system for this roundup. The use of a stylish, if somewhat expensive, case also gave its Cinevue the right look. The SilverStone



7 **Price:** \$2,800 **Contact:** PCQUEST **Phone:** 1300 550 118 **Web:** www.pcquest.com.au + High-quality SilverStone case + Digital TV tuner card – Pricey

Lascala-series piano black desktop case gives this system a definite hi-fi look, but it adds around \$250 to \$300 to the cost by the time you add in a power supply (the case doesn't come with one).

Under the bonnet is a good assortment of components — they were all just slightly off the pace of the top two systems. AMD's Athlon 64 3500+ turned in a creditable performance across our benchmarks, but it's worth noting that the AMD Athlon 64 is not as fast at video encoding as an equivalent Intel Pentium 4. The 250GB Maxtor hard drive is roomy, but it's not the 400GB or 500GB offered by the leading systems. LG's GSA-4163B DVD burner is a smart

low-cost option, but the XpertVision non-GT GeForce 6600 is a real weak point. Its performance, particularly on SCCT, doesn't bode well for future 3D gaming. That said, it did better than most.

BenQ's widescreen LCD monitor is a neat option, but you'll need to carefully check its viewing angles as if you indeed intend to put this PC to home theatre use.

Hauppauge's WinTV-NOVA-T-MCE brings digital TV (unofficially) to Windows XP MCE. At \$2,800 though, this is one of the more expensive systems we tested.

There's no doubting the case gives this one a real edge in looks, but possibly at the cost of some features inside.

Rectron CMATCS-81915GMF-3200MCE

We thought about taking a point off the score for this Rectron system just for the long, meaningless name, but as it is, the CMATCS (as we'll call it) has a reasonable mix of features if again, at a somewhat inflated price tag. It combines the

BROADBAND UNLIMITED



90

PER MONTH

Freshly hatched deal
for first 3 months

**SIGN UP
GIFT**

WHILE STOCKS LAST

**FREE
MP3**



\$9.90/month ADSL offer includes **unlimited downloads**

Based on 256/64K Broadband ADSL

FREE installation on 24 month contract

\$49.90/month after 3 months

Credit Cards Only. New Customers Only

dodo™
131 602
www.dodo.com.au

original 3.2GHz Pentium 4 540 processor with 1GB of memory and a competent list of features. However it's a sign of the times when the 200GB Western Digital hard drive was the smallest we saw in this roundup. And for the \$2,888 price tag, these specs aren't great value.

Dual Gigabyte optical drives, including the GO-W1616B double-layer burner, make it a rare system, while Kworld's V-Stream DVB-T digital TV tuner card gets another run. Remarkably, its 3D graphics performance with its GeForce 6600 card was within a whisker of PCQUEST's Cineview with the same chip, showing that the Athlon 64 3500+ and Pentium 4

540 are pretty close in terms of performance.

All up, it's a creditable system that covers all the bases, but again, the price hurts.



7
Price: \$2,888 Contact:
Rectron Phone: (03)
9561 6166 Web:
www.rectron.com.au + Dual
optical drives + Steady
performance – Very expensive

Acer Aspire T630

You have to give Acer marks for

even turning up to this feature — it's more than other big-name brands attempted. As such if you're after a big-name system that's ready to capture TV straight out of the box, this is one we can suggest. However, the fact that Microsoft continues to not officially support Australian digital TV in its Windows XP MCE operating system leaves the big-name brands between a rock and a hard place. Here, it forces Acer to stick with analog TV tuner cards. Acer has included dual cards, which adds a little in value, but given the \$3,099 price tag and no digital TV reception, it doesn't rate all that highly on the value Richter scale.

The overall performance of the Aspire T630 was actually pretty good, particularly on multimedia applications, but you wouldn't say its games speed was worth much, even with a Radeon X600 Pro graphics card.



6.5
Price: \$3,099
Contact:
Acer Phone: 1300
559 024 Web:
www.acer.com.au + Good overall
performance – Analog TV tuner
cards – Very expensive

BEST-VALUE MEDIA CENTRE PCs: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	PC eXpress Phoenix 1060A	Marvel Computers Media Centre 3400i	TI Computers Media Center 1000	Emagen Avex 1200	PCQUEST Cineview	Rectron CMATCS-81915GMF-3200MCE	Acer Aspire T630
Price	\$2,550	\$2,795	\$1,599	\$1,700	\$2,800	\$2,888	\$3,099
SPECIFICATIONS							
Processor	AMD Athlon 64 3800+	Intel Pentium 4 551 3.4GHz	AMD Athlon 64 3000+	AMD Athlon 64 3000+	AMD Athlon 64 3500+	Intel Pentium 4 540 3.2GHz	Intel Pentium 4 650 3.4GHz
Memory	1GB DDR400	1GB DDR2-533	1GB DDR400	512MB DDR400	1GB DDR400	1GB DDR400	1GB DDR400
Motherboard	ASUS A8N-E	ASUS P5AD2-E Deluxe	Gigabyte GA-K8VMB00M	MSI RX480MZ-IL	ABIT AN8 Ultra	Gigabyte GA-B1915GMF	Acer OEM
Graphics card	Nvidia GeForce 6800GT 256MB PCI Express	Gigabyte GV-NX661128VP	Integrated UniChrome II	Integrated ATI Radeon Xpress 200 graphics	XpertVision GF 6600 128MB PCI Express	Leadtek WinFast PX6600 TD 256MB	Sapphire ATI Radeon X600 Pro 256MB
Graphics chip	Nvidia GeForce 6800 GT	Nvidia GeForce 6600 GT	N/A	As above	Nvidia GeForce 6600	Nvidia GeForce 6600	ATI Radeon X600 Pro
Hard disk drive	Two 200GB Western Digital WD200JD (RAID 0 configuration)	Two 250GB Seagate Barracuda SATA	200GB Maxtor SATA 7,200rpm	Two 200GB Seagate Barracuda SATA (RAID 0 configuration)	250GB Maxtor MaxLine II Plus	200GB Western Digital WD200JD SATA	250GB Seagate Barracuda ST325082 SATA
Optical drive(s)	LG GDR-8163B DVD-ROM, LG GSA-4163B double-layer DVD burner	Pioneer DVR-109 double-layer DVD burner	LG GSA-4163B double-layer DVD burner	Pioneer DVR-109 double-layer DVD burner	LG GSA-4163B double-layer DVD burner	Gigabyte 16x DVD-ROM, 16x double-layer DVD burner	16x double-layer DVD burner (OEM)
Monitor	19in Mitsubishi DV997FD flat CRT	19in Philips 190B6 8ms TFT LCD	17in BenQ FP71e TFT LCD (8ms)	No monitor	BenQ FP71W widescreen LCD	19in Gigabyte TFT LCD	Acer AL1913w widescreen LCD
TV tuner card	ProLink PVRView PlayTV300 DVB-T	Kworld V-Stream T300	Videomate Compro DVB-T and HDTV tuner	Ultraview dual DVB-T and HDTV tuner	Hauppauge NOVA-T-MCE PCI	Kworld V-Stream DVB-T PCI	Hauppauge PVR-500MCE
Operating system	Microsoft Windows XP Home	Microsoft Windows XP MCE	Microsoft Windows XP MCE	Microsoft Windows XP MCE	Microsoft Windows XP MCE	Microsoft Windows XP MCE	Microsoft Windows XP MCE
FireWire port included	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
TEST RESULTS							
VeriTest Business Winstone 2002	44.6	DNF**	35.1	32.9	38.6	32.1	39
VeriTest Multimedia Content Creation Winstone 2003	62.9	57.8	DNF**	42.8	DNB*	53.7	57.8
VeriTest Business Disk WinMark 99 (KB/s)	20400	7570	7870	5770	9940	4970	9740
UserBench Splinter Cell CT (1,024 by 768) average fps	88.8	53.62	DNB*	DNB*	29.25	29.25	DNB*
UserBench Splinter Cell CT (1,280 by 1,024) average fps	62.8	38.09	DNB*	DNB*	21.01	DNB	DNB*
UserBench DOOM 3 (1,024 by 768) average fps	104.4	78.4	DNB*	7.6	52.3	52	24.9
UserBench DOOM 3 (1,280 by 1,024) average fps	91.6	62.1	DNB*	4.9	34.7	34.6	16.1

**DNF: did not finish. *DNB: did not benchmark (see review). In all cases, higher scores are better.

EPSON®



EPSON

SOME THINGS DON'T WORK PROPERLY WITHOUT THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT.



To get the very best printing results you need all the right elements working together. The EPSON PerfectPicture Imaging System™ combines the highest quality photo printers, genuine EPSON inks and papers to give outstanding results every time. With quality like this, it's little wonder three times as many professional photographers choose EPSON when photo printing*. Call 1300 361 054 or visit us at www.epson.com.au

*Source Colmar Brunton Research (Aust) 2004.

PC User's Top Buys

The PC User team selects the best-value products and PC specifications.

Want to buy a new PC? If you want to order a custom-built PC (or build your own) using only the best-value components available, this new regular column will help you make that choice.



Pioneer DVR-109

Price: \$59 **Contact:** Pioneer Electronics **Phone:** 1300 666 383 **Web:** www.pioneeraus.com.au

Reviewed: May 2005

A state-of-the-art burner for less than \$100! The DVR-109 boasts support for double-layer DVD burning for both major formats (DVD-R and DVD+R), the latest speeds and Pioneer's usual burn reliability. If you need basic video editing and burning software, the retail pack (DVR-A09XLA) costs around \$20 more.

Based on our latest Labs testing, we've selected the best-value specifications for three types of PC (see table below). We're not saying these are the best specs for everyone, but each component represents the best bang per buck at its particular price point. We encourage you to customise these specs further to suit your needs. For example, if you're not into 3D games, you can save money on the all-round home PC by ditching the graphics card and opting for a motherboard

with built-in graphics. Choosing a PC starts with the processor and motherboard. The truth is both Intel and AMD offer a good range of chips for any need, and even a budget processor like the AMD Sempron or Intel Celeron D is fine for most applications. We've chosen an AMD Athlon 64 3000+ or Intel Pentium 4 531 as the starting point here, because their compatible motherboards offer a better upgrade path in the future. The key to maximising this upgrade path is choosing the latest

processor socket format (the physical connection between the processor and motherboard): Socket 939 for AMD processors or LGA775 for Intel chips. Also important is the chipset (a pair of chips on the motherboard that controls many key functions). For example, if you want a dual-core Pentium D processor to hasten your video work, you'll need a board with one of Intel's 945 or 955 chipsets.

Other Top Buy products include:



Compro VideoMate DVR-T300

Price: \$149 **Contact:** Anyware Computer Accessories **Phone:** (02) 9879 5788 **Web:** <http://www.new.compro.com.tw/en/home.html> **Reviewed:** August 2005

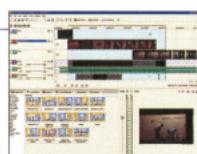
A TV tuner with the lot, the DVR-T300 has a dual tuner, supporting both digital and analog TV, a remote from which you can turn the PC on and off, support for HDTV, BDA drivers for Windows XP Media Center Edition 2005, an internal audio connector and outstanding software for recording and time shifting.



i-mate JAM

Price: \$910 **Contact:** i-mate **Phone:** 1300 850 513 **Web:** www.clubimate.com **Reviewed:** August 2005

Hands down the best-value smart phone available, the i-mate has a beautiful display and its smooth edges make it a joy to hold and use. It uses Windows Mobile 2003, comes with a 1.3-megapixel camera and SecureDigital expansion slot for extra memory or an optional Wi-Fi card.



Sony Vegas Movie Studio + DVD

Price: \$209 **Contact:** New Magic Phone: (02) 9528 4555 **Web:** www.sonymediasoftware.com **Reviewed:** July 2005

Want to edit your home movies? Vegas Movie Studio offers a great compromise between power and ease of use. It has a good selection of effects — even chroma key — and comes with DVD Architect Studio, an excellent program for putting your movies on DVD. At the price, it's an unbeatable value.



TI Computers TI AMD Game 3000 Pack

Price: \$1,399 **Contact:** TI Computers **Phone:** (02) 9437 5437 **Web:** www.ticomputers.com.au **Reviewed:** August 2005

Trying to find a computer that matches our recommended all-round home PC? This TI Computers system is almost identical. The main difference is a 17in CRT monitor instead of our recommended 19in Acer model, but for under \$1,400, we'll forgive that. Great for games or making home movies, it's simply amazing value. ☺

BEST-VALUE PC SPECIFICATIONS

	All-round home PC	Performance game PC	Performance video editing PC
Processor	AMD Athlon 64 3000+ (Socket 939) or 3.0GHz Intel Pentium 4 531	AMD Athlon 64 3500+ (Socket 939)	Intel Pentium D 820 (2.8GHz)
Motherboard	For Athlon 64: Motherboard with Nvidia nForce4 chipset (such as Gigabyte's GA-K8NF-9). For Pentium 4: An LGA775-socket motherboard (such as Abitron's PX915PC Pro-G)	Motherboard with Nvidia nForce4 SLI chipset (such as the ASUS A8N-SLI or Gigabyte GA-K8N Ultra-SLI)	Motherboard with Intel 945 or 955 chipset (such as the ASUS P5LD2-945P or Gigabyte GA-8945G-Pro)
Memory	512MB DDR400	1GB DDR400	1GB DDR2-533
Graphics card	Nvidia GeForce 6600 GT 128MB (such as the Xpertvision GF 6600GT)	Two Nvidia GeForce 6600GT 128MB cards (SLI)	Cheapest possible (or motherboard with integrated graphics)
Hard disk drive	160GB Western Digital WD1600JD	250GB Western Digital WD2500JD	250GB Western Digital WD2500JD (RAID 0)
DVD burner	Pioneer DVR-109	Pioneer DVR-109	Pioneer DVR-109
Monitor	Acer AC915 19in CRT	Acer AC915 19in CRT	Acer AC915 19in CRT
Approx price	\$1,500	\$2,200	\$1,900



GET MORE RANGE

802.11b

Super G

GET MORE FREEDOM

RangeMax

RangeMax

Wireless to the Max

Introducing NETGEAR RangeMax, NETGEAR's new range of wireless routers and adapters.

With wireless the hands-down favourite home networking solution, there's been just one problem: Staying connected in your home can be tricky, especially in the home's ever-expanding wireless environment.

To improve coverage, NETGEAR® developed RangeMax™ wireless networking products. The heart of the system is the RangeMax Wireless Router (WPN824): Its seven internal Smart Antennas, instead of the simple antenna typically found in routers, survey the environment continually, seeking the optimal mix of antennas to produce the strongest, most far-reaching coverage.

This active networking solution handles interference, signal reflections, and physical barriers—achieving superior range, coverage, and speed.

In fact, RangeMax provides up to 10 times the coverage and speed of 802.11g, achieving its best results toward the outer limits of the network. Now, you can achieve consistent wireless coverage 200 to 400 feet from the router in your home environment.

Faster, whole-home coverage is the future for networking and home entertainment—and NETGEAR RangeMax is bringing them home now.



NETGEAR® RangeMax™ Wireless Router (WPN824)

What RangeMax™ Smart MIMO delivers:

- Up to 10 times faster coverage and speed
- 7 Smart Antennas to continually survey and optimize throughput
- Network range extended up to 400 feet
- Dead spots banished with Smart MIMO (Multi-Input, Multi-Output) technology
- Compatibility ensured with past and future wireless standards—including 802.11b, 802.11g, and SuperG®—for up to 50% improvement on existing gear
- Entire line now available: RangeMax Wireless Router, USB 2.0 Adapter, PCI Card
- 24 x 7 Technical Support

www.netgear.com.au

Visit www.netgear.com.au/home to view a how-to-guide on wireless home networking for pre-sales, ring: 1800 502 061



NETGEAR
Everybody's connecting.



Music on the go

Can't go anywhere without your music?

Darren Yates puts 20 of the latest portable music players to the test.

Portable music players come in three basic flavours, based on their storage media: flash memory, micro-drive and hard disk drive.

Flash-based players are the lightest, most compact and also the most robust, and they're ideal for when you're at the gym.

You'll typically find these in capacities up to 1GB and many come with an FM receiver and voice recording features.

Micro-drive players are a compromise between the small size and storage of flash memory players and the higher capacity, less rugged hard drive players. These players provide from 4GB to 6GB of storage and often include line-in recording.

Hard drive players provide a minimum of 20GB of storage, but can go up to an enormous 80GB. They typically support uncompressed .wav file audio for best quality, but require care to prevent damage to the

internal hard drive.

Most players, regardless of their type, can double as storage devices, allowing you to transport files.

➲ What to look for

Ideally, any unit you choose should have a removable battery. Built-in Lithium Ion (LiIon) rechargeable batteries are all well and good until they no longer take a charge. Also, be wary of vendors that charge you a substantial fee to change the battery for you.

Perhaps the most important feature in a music player is audio quality, which is why

we've gone to great lengths to test the audio quality (see 'How we tested' on page 36).

We also recommend you look for a device that works natively with Windows Explorer and doesn't tie your player down with management software.

In general, drive-based players offer better audio quality than the flash-based models, but there are exceptions to that rule. While we did see one or two models that are best turned into landfill, there are also some cracking new models that will surprise you. In short, portable music never sounded so good.

FLASH PLAYERS

Creative MuVo TX FM

Flash-based MP3 players are just about everywhere these days, yet finding a good one is not as easy as it might seem. However, the MuVo TX FM is a clear cut above the crowd. Its 1GB of storage for \$249 is damn good going, but when you consider it also features an LCD, can act as a USB memory drive, has an onboard FM receiver and handles voice recording, it's a pretty amazing little package.



Price: \$249 (1GB) **Contact:** Creative Labs **Phone:** (02) 9021 9800 **Web:** www.au.creative.com + Good audio quality + Removable battery + Tons of features

It's also powered by a removable AAA battery. Audio quality was well above average, with Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) just 0.022% at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering. Its A-weighted signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of 88.2dB is not bad. The maximum output level of 391mV RMS is a little low, but it should still work nicely when plugged into your

stereo system. It boasts the rare feature of uncompressed high-quality .wav support, along with MP3 and WMA formats, giving you the best of both worlds. And with its tiny 43g weight, you won't notice you're carrying it. It shows up as external storage under Windows Explorer, so you just copy your song files across and you're set. All up, the MuVo



TX FM has features to burn — storage, audio quality and a removable battery — at a pretty decent price too. We think this is the best flash player in this feature. As good as it is though, we'd still suggest you check out the new Zen Neon first (see page 40). An extra \$50 gets you 5GB of space in a tiny package.

Creative MuVo Mix

The new 512MB MuVo Mix plugs straight into your USB port and appears as a storage drive under Windows Explorer. Another plus is the removable AAA-size battery and again, we'd suggest using a NiMH rechargeable. In terms of audio quality, the Mix gave good results all round, with THD

levels of just 0.022% at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering. The controls are simple to use and the main control unit separates from the rest of the casework to double as a 512MB flash memory drive. Although there's no LCD, no FM radio and no voice recording, the removable battery and low THD figures make this one a winner. The MuVo TX FM may be better

all-round value with its extra features and double the storage for just an extra \$100, but if the budget won't stretch that far, the MuVo Mix is a good, simple player with the right mix of storage, audio quality and price.



Price: \$149 (512MB) **Contact:** Creative Labs **Phone:** (02) 9021 9800 **Web:** www.au.creative.com + Removable battery + Very good audio quality — No LCD screen



Linophir L117 MP3 Player



Price: \$89 (256MB) **Contact:** Linophir **Phone:** (02) 9211 0478 **Web:** www.linophir.com.au + Good audio quality + Compact design — Average earphone quality



If you're after a bargain player that still has reasonable audio quality, the L117 is a little ripper. Priced at just \$89, it's one of the smallest players we've seen, yet



it still manages to include voice recording and an FM receiver. You get an idea of just how small this player is when you realise that it's also powered by a single removable AAA battery. It comes with a blacklit LCD, works

directly under Windows Explorer and even supports uncompressed .wav files. Audio quality was pretty damn good, with just 0.13% flat-response THD levels across the board. However, the 30kHz filter THD

levels of just 0.01% make this equal to the best players in this feature. Unfortunately, the SNR results don't quite match and the earphones could use some help, but there's still plenty of potential in this one. Overall,

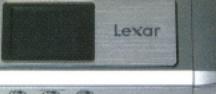
the price is pretty amazing given how much you're getting. We can't vouch for its longevity in terms of build quality, but it's definitely a must-see if your music habit doesn't match your wallet.

Lexar Digital Music Player LDP-600

The LDP-600 is unusual in that it comes with a built-in FM stereo transmitter. This means that if your car doesn't have a CD player, you can still get good-quality music through the FM radio. With the transmitter switched off, audio quality through the headphone output was generally passable, with THD figures around 0.08% with filtering. Its SNR of 93.1dB (A-weighted) is surprisingly good. The unit requires connection via a USB cable and also has a built-in LiIon battery. On the upside, you also get an FM receiver and excellent-quality Sennheiser earphones. All up, the FM transmitter option makes this worth a look, but at \$189 for the 256MB model, it's by no means the best-value flash-based player around.

MSI Mega Player 521

If you're the sporty type, the Mega Player 521 might be just what you're after. Apart from being a decent player, it offers a couple of very unique features, including a pedometer and stopwatch. It also has an FM radio, onboard voice recording and good earphones. The display is an OLED (organic light-emitting diode) type, which looks smarter than basic LCD, but we think that's undone by the unit's integrated LiIon rechargeable battery. Audio quality was good, with low 0.012% THD at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering, but unfortunately, this



7
Price: \$189 (256MB)
Contact: Lexar Phone: (02) 9034 8625 Web: www.lexar.com + Built-in FM transmitter + Memory expansion – Low storage

is another player that will clip the audio if you pump up the volume too high. The maximum output level is also very low. The Mega Player 521 comes with an armband holder, so if you're a gym junkie, the extra features make it well worth a look.

MSI Mega Player 522BT

The other flash player we received from MSI this month was the unusual Mega Player 522BT. It's one of the largest flash players we've ever seen, but in addition to its size-consuming SecureDigital expansion slot, it also comes with onboard Bluetooth. The idea here is that it allows you to use the 522BT to answer your phone calls from your mobile phone at a distance of up to 10m. You use the player's microphone and headset without actually being wired to the phone. It's an unusual feature, but unfortunately, the player is almost the size of most phones. Audio quality was pretty decent, with THD levels at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering measuring just 0.013%, although its SNR ratings weren't so good. The player has an onboard

FM receiver and voice recording, but it also has a built-in LiIon battery. MSI rates the battery for a maximum of 12 hours of playback, which can only be reduced greatly with use of Bluetooth. The 522BT is an interesting concept, but one that may prove redundant.

Pioneer DreamVision MP318

The DreamVision MP318 is one of a breed of chunkier-style players, and it's a model that offers a good features list. Unfortunately, it suffers from clipping distortion. That's a pity because fundamentally, it's not a bad player, with low THD levels of just 0.013% at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering, and its 94.5dB A-weighted SNR is as good as you'll find. But when the THD levels at maximum output can push past 10%, it's not good. There are plenty of features onboard, including an FM receiver, line-in and voice recording, and power is provided by a removable AAA battery. Earphone quality wasn't too bad, producing reasonably balanced audio, but lacking the extreme lows and highs found



7
Price: \$310 (256MB)
Contact: MSI Computer Australia Phone: (02) 9748 0070 Web: www.msicomputer.com.au + SD memory expansion slot + Bluetooth – Built-in battery

in Apple and Sennheiser models. Unfortunately, priced at \$159 for just 256MB, we think you're paying just a little too much for those extra features.

Apacer Audio Steno AB320

The AB320 is one of the many broad-style MP3 players coming

out of Taiwan. While it's more about style than substance, it still offers passable audio quality. Despite its small size, it has an FM radio and voice recording functions. The 128 by 64-pixel blue-backlit LCD is functional, but just a tad dark. Power is provided via a single AAA battery, and it even supports .wav files in addition to the regular MP3 and WMA formats. The audio quality here – 0.012% THD at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering – is one of the better results you'll find, but that's tempered by comparatively low SNR figures, low-quality earphones and low maximum output levels. The lack of storage is also a serious drawback. The distributor, BlueChip Infotech, had no pricing on this unit at time of publishing. ☺



7
Price: \$159 (256MB)
Contact: Pioneer Computers Australia Phone: (02) 9690 2888 Web: www.pioneercomputers.com.au + Lots of features – Can't handle full-scale digital audio – Expensive

6.5
Price: TBA (128MB)
Contact: BlueChip Infotech Phone: 1300 727 474 Web: www.apacer.com + AAA-battery power + Passable audio quality – Horrible styling



7
Price: \$290 (512MB)
Contact: MSI Computer Australia Phone: (02) 9748 0070 Web: www.msicomputer.com.au + Ideal for sporty types + Good audio quality – Built-in LiIon battery



ENTERTAINMENT ANYWHERE

Apple iPod Shuffle

While the price of the 1GB iPod Shuffle is now a neat \$199, it still has too many drawbacks to make it a great MP3 player. In terms of storage, you probably won't find a better-value unit, but unfortunately, you don't get much else besides. There's no FM receiver, no voice recording, no line-in recording and no LCD screen. At 21g, it's the lightest MP3 player we've seen, but that's mostly because

it doesn't have much else in it. One thing it has is that we wish it didn't is its integrated LiIon battery. The unit was also unable to handle full-scale digital audio at maximum output without producing clipping distortion, but on a high note, the

earphones were the best in the entire feature. All up though, this isn't one of Apple's better efforts.

Price: \$199 (1GB) **Contact:**
Apple Phone: 13 36 22
Web: www.apple.com.au
+ Great value storage - Built-in battery - Poor full-scale digital audio handling

Samsung YP-T7Z

Samsung's compact YP-T7Z was the third 1GB flash memory player we tested. However, this one automatically started off on the back foot because of its high \$299 price tag — that's \$100 more than the iPod Shuffle and \$50 more than the MuVo TX FM. It's a compact unit with an LCD screen, but the built-in LiIon battery is a bit of a timebomb waiting to go off. It comes with an FM receiver as its only notable extra, but does play back .wav files, too. Audio quality was steady, with 0.03% THD at 1kHz and 30kHz filtering, which is a reasonable effort, although the 15kHz THD figures are getting up a bit. More impressive is its 92.3dB A-weighted SNR and the high 663mVRMS maximum output signal level. The earphones weren't quite as good as we would have expected, with a tad



6.5

Price: \$299 (1GB) **Contact:** Samsung Phone: 1300 369 600 **Web:** www.samsung.com.au + Reasonable audio quality - Pricey - Integrated LiIon battery

6

Price: \$190 (512MB) **Contact:** Blue Chip Infotech Phone: 1300 727 474 **Web:** www.apacer.com + AA-battery power - Below average audio quality - Speakers need help



produce reasonable results, although its 73.7dB A-weighted SNR is still below average. The earphone quality here was quite poor, with notable sizzling effects on higher frequencies making us want to dive for the stop button. All up, although we like the idea, we're not fans of the execution.

Apacer Audio Steno AP510

too much midrange and not enough in the higher frequencies. All up, although this one's a reasonable player, we'd go for the cheaper and better MuVo TX FM first.

Apacer Audio Steno AP510

The Apacer AP510 has potential. Loaded with features such as an FM receiver and voice recording, it looks attractive and it's the only player to use a larger AA-cell removable battery. Unfortunately, the tiny stereo speaker dock requires

external power to work, and it simply doesn't have the horsepower to deliver decent sound at any reasonable listening level. Bass frequencies had a tendency of breaking up and distorting badly. You also can't hear much unless the volume levels are in the last five or so positions from maximum. The player can't handle a full-scale digital audio signal without going into clipping, which isn't good. When the clipping is managed, the AP510 can be made to

HOW WE TESTED

Each player was submitted to what we consider the most strenuous audio testing barrage in the Australian IT publishing industry, thanks to our Audio Precision System Two audio test measurement unit. Here's what we tested:

◆ **Total harmonic distortion (THD).** This gives a quantitative result of how much unwanted harmonic frequencies each player produces when fed with a series of sinewave tones at 50Hz, 1kHz and 15kHz. Using these frequencies gives a reasonable spread across the audio frequency spectrum. Each player was set to maximum output and the result was measured as a percentage with 0% the ideal. Anything below 0.03% is good; anything over 0.3% isn't. Distortion can produce different audible effects from crackling to sizzling.

Because players can also produce unwanted radio frequency (RF) distortion due to the computer chips inside, we tested the THD in two ways. First, we measured all unwanted frequencies up to 500kHz, and second, we measured to just 30kHz and filtered out everything beyond that using what's known as a '30kHz low-pass filter' (LPPF). The low-pass filter results will always be lower, but the lower the two sets of THD readings are, the higher the audio quality from that player.

The three audio sinewave tones used for testing were generated in software and encoded as both uncompressed 44.1kHz/16-bit stereo .wav files and as 320Kbps .mp3 files at a level of 1dB below the digital full-scale maximum (-1dBFS) to ensure the highest possible quality.

◆ **Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR).** This gives a quantitative result of just how much unwanted electrical noise is generated by each player. A player that's too noisy will sound like an AM radio, rather than like digital audio. The result is measured using a logarithmic scale called decibels (dB), and is a ratio of a known audio tone reference level compared to the measured level of background noise. The higher the score here, the better.

To measure the noise level correctly, we set the reference level to a 1kHz sinewave audio tone

(-1dBFS), with each player set to maximum output. We then measured the noise level by playing a special 'silent' .mp3 or .wav file where appropriate. This kept the player's internal audio circuitry active, allowing us to accurately measure any noise generated by it.

To further check the noise level, we measured it twice — first by checking for any electrical noise up to a frequency of 500kHz, and second, by using what's known as an 'A-weighted' filter, which more accurately reflect how our ears recognise different sound frequencies. Most vendors use A-weighted figures because they look better, but it's important to know the flat-response SNR as well, so you know just how well designed and built a player is.

◆ **Maximum output signal.** We also measured the maximum RMS (root mean square) output voltage of each player when connected to a 1000 ohm load. Although most players are connected to low-impedance earphones (typically less than 64 ohms), a 1000 ohm load is more typical of most stereo amplifiers. Generally, the higher the output level, the greater the chance the SNR will be good.

◆ **Earphone quality check.** We also checked each player's earphone quality through the use of specific tracks from Diana Krall's *When I Look Into Your Eyes* CD, used for its high recording quality, wide frequency response, sparse instrumental sound field and ultra-low distortion. Scores were given out of 10 for both bass and treble; higher scores indicate better results.

◆ Note that where a player was incapable of playing back the test tones at maximum output without serious and unwanted clipping distortion, the audio levels were reduced until the clipping was removed. Clipping distortion for a correct digital audio file is unacceptable and any player suffering from clipping is noted with (*) symbol in the results table.

We also checked each player for features and operability. Any problems found here are mentioned in each of the reviews. All of these criteria were factored into our final score out of 10.

HP recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional.

XP Professional is available at additional cost.



Made by HP. Created by you.

From just \$850.

Start with a body from a big name reliable brand. Put a heap of grunt under the bonnet and custom build the rest.

You can now create your dream machine from just \$850. You get our HP dx5150 Microtower with AMD processor and dual monitor output, plus your choice of components including extra RAM, graphics card, DVD burner and a bigger hard drive. The result is a PC that meets your needs exactly, with a powerful processor, for a price you'd expect to pay for an entry-level machine. And we will put it all together for you and deliver it free of charge.

Call us now. These will drive away fast.

SMART ADVICE > SMART TECHNOLOGY > SMART SUPPORT



Call 1300 302 489
Click hp.com.au/smartoﬃce/amd
Visit your local HP reseller





ENTERTAINMENT ANYWHERE



Price: TBA (128MB)

Contact: BlueChip

Infotech Phone:

1300 727 474 Web: www.apacer.com + AAA-battery power - No extra features

- Poor audio quality



Price: \$179

(256MB) Contact:

AMI Consultants

Phone: (02) 9763 2122

Web: www.geil.com

+ Plays video files - Poor audio quality - Poor earphone quality

pushing over 6% at 15kHz. This wasn't clipping distortion, but the more worrying general kind that can't be corrected. It also produced plenty of radio frequency interference (RFI), which shows up in the SNR results. Its flat-response SNR of 25dB is just awful, but the fact that it drops to a more respectable 72dB using a 30kHz filter (which removes all of the nasties) shows this isn't the highest-quality player. This is another one that the distributor, BlueChip Infotech, could not provide pricing for.

Geil iBall

The name Geil is best known for high-performance PC memory, and the company's new iBall multimedia player is about as weird as MP3 players get. The iBall not only handles MP3 audio, but plays a weird form of compressed videoclips

called MPV on its tiny, tiny 96 by 64-pixel screen. However, just why it does is anyone's guess. The screen is just big enough to get an idea of what you're looking at, and nothing more. But the player's big problem is the audio quality. While the earphones aren't bad in terms of bass/treble balance, the iBall produces

copious amounts of distortion, hitting 4.19% at 1kHz and ramping up to an ugly 32% at 15kHz — and that's with generous 30kHz filtering. Switch the THD to include all harmonics up to 500kHz and the 15kHz THD result hits a horrible 53%. After hearing the iBall, we think Geil should stick to making PC memory. ☺

FLASH-BASED MP3 PLAYERS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	Apacer Audio Steno AB320	Apacer Audio Steno AP510	Apacer Audio Steno AV230	Apple iPod Shuffle	Creative MuVo Mix	Creative MuVo Tx FM	Geil iBall	Lexar Digital Music Player LDP-500	Linophir L117 MP3 Player	MSI Mega Player S21	Pioneer DreamVision MP318	MSI Mega Player 22BT	Samsung YP-T72
Price	TBA	\$190	TBA	\$199	\$149	\$249	\$179	\$189	\$89	\$290	\$159	\$310	\$299
SPECIFICATIONS													
Rated capacity	128MB	512MB	128MB	1,000	512MB	1GB	256MB	256MB	256MB	512MB	256MB	256MB	1GB
True capacity (bytes)	124,025,856	515,866,624	129,464,320	1,038,643,200	516,784,128	1,043,169,280	241,745,920	257,662,976	257,531,904	518,750,208	259,489,792	257,130,496	1,025,212,416
Onboard memory expansion	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
USB connection	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Battery power	One AAA	One AA	One AAA	Integrated Lilon	One AAA	One AAA	Integrated Lilon	Integrated Lilon	One AAA	Integrated Lilon	One AAA	Integrated Lilon	Integrated Lilon
Weight (grams)	40	86	36	21	38	43	33	53	36	45	50	65	37
FEATURES													
LCD screen	Yes (mono)	Yes (mono)	No	No	No	Yes (mono)	Yes (colour)	Yes (mono)	Yes (mono)	Yes (OLED)	Yes (mono)	Yes (OLED)	Yes (colour)
FM receiver	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Line-in recording	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Voice recording	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
FM transmitter	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Bundled speakers	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Works with Windows Explorer	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FORMAT SUPPORT													
WAV/Ogg Vorbis	Yes/No	No/No	No/No	Yes/No	No/No	Yes/No	No/No	No/No	Yes/No	No/No	No/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
MP3/WMA	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/No	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes
TEST RESULTS													
THD at 50Hz (flat)	0.26%	0.29%*	2.40%	0.41%*	0.30%	0.29%	0.29%	0.17%	0.12%	0.25%*	0.24%*	0.33%	0.15%
THD at 10kHz (flat)	0.25%	0.27%*	5.50%	0.43%*	0.29%	0.32%	4.95%	0.22%	0.13%	0.25%*	0.24%*	0.29%	0.18%
THD at 15kHz (flat)	0.28%	0.47%*	6.50%	0.55%*	0.32%	0.32%	53%	2.48%	0.13%	0.276%*	0.27%*	0.32%	2.26%
THD at 50Hz (30kHz LPF)	0.015%	0.032%*	0.790%	0.013%*	0.022%	0.022%	0.210%	0.084%	0.011%	0.014%*	0.013%*	0.015%	0.037%
THD at 1kHz (30kHz LPF)	0.012%	0.032%*	0.26%	0.095%*	0.022%	0.022%	4.190%	0.084%	0.010%	0.012%*	0.013%*	0.013%	0.030%
THD at 15kHz (30kHz LPF)	0.045%	0.26%*	6.300%	0.015%*	0.051%	0.062%	32.000%	0.096%	0.011%	0.045%*	0.047%*	0.046%	0.083%
SNR (1kHz at -1dBFS) (flat)	55.1dB	62.7dB	25.3dB	64.5dB	53.6dB	54dB	63dB	62.1dB	58.7dB	57.5dB	64.4dB	53.8dB	62.8dB
SNR (1kHz at -1dBFS) (A-weighted)	85.7dB	76.7dB	73.2dB	93.5dB	86.5dB	88.2dB	89.6dB	89.4dB	87.3dB	89dB	94.5dB	86.6dB	92.3dB
Maximum output signal (mV RMS)	221	730*	298	589*	385	391	498	464	567	288*	456*	245	663
Earphone quality (bass/treble) out of 10	6/5	4/6	6/5	8.5/8.5	8/7	7.5/7.5	7.5/8	8/8	6/6	8/8	7/7	8/8	7.5/6.5

*Indicates output measure at lower than full output due to excessive clipping distortion (see review).

EVEN OUR SMALLEST USB DRIVES ARE BIG ON DETAIL



At Verbatim, we're big on small ideas. And what could be smaller, more high-performing than our new USB Drive that's big on memory. With a storage capacity of up to 1GB, you can store files, share music and transport photos and videos. We've also added enhanced data integrity, security features and a lifetime warranty. So when it comes to reliability and attention to detail,

choose Verbatim's USB Drive. It's the next step in the evolution of storage technologies... from the leader in the field - Verbatim.



Verbatim

Verbatim Australia

6 Weir St, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146 Australia
t: (03) 9823 0999 f: (03) 9824 7011
e: info@verbatim.com.au

For more information on our complete product range call (03) 9823 0999 or visit www.verbatim.com.au



C MICRO-DRIVE PLAYERS

Creative Zen Neon

Creative finally has a product that we think should give Apple plenty to worry about. The new Zen Neon looks and sounds the business. For a reasonable \$299, this unit packs in a 5GB micro-drive — 1GB more than the similarly priced iPod mini — and you also get an FM receiver, voice recording and line-in recording, with direct-to-MP3 conversion. Add in its tiny

74g weight and compact size, and the Neon looks set to take the market by storm. In terms of audio quality, the Neon is about as good as it gets. Its 0.01% THD at 1kHz with 30kHz filtering is excellent, but more impressive was its 73.8dB flat-response SNR. No other player came within a statistical bull's roar. This is one very-well designed little player. Creative's earphone quality was also pretty good, although we'd still take a pair from an iPod first.

Creative Zen Micro

With the arrival of the Zen Neon, Creative now has a problem: what to do with the Zen Micro. That said, the Zen Micro still has *some* life left in it. One great feature is the removable Li-ion battery. This means you can just pull it out and replace it. It's one of the few drive-based players that has a removable battery, so it gets bonus points for that.

Unfortunately, interfacing with the Micro requires you to use Creative software. Why Creative couldn't allow the Micro to work straight with Windows Explorer is beyond us. On the other hand, its software will integrate with Windows Explorer, which is admittedly better than the way iTunes demands to act as gatekeeper between your player and PC. Its audio quality was pretty good, with 0.024% THD at 1kHz and 30kHz filtering, and

The Neon supports .wav file playback along with the usual MP3 and WMA support. The only real gripe we have is with the built-in Li-ion battery, although Creative at least calls it 'serviceable', which means it can be swapped out with a jeweller's-size Phillips-head screwdriver and a replacement battery from Creative. (There's no word on battery cost as yet.) The 128 by 64-pixel LCD screen has a display that looks very similar to some of MSI's models,



but the fact remains it is definitely one very cool little toy. If you're thinking of buying an iPod Mini, we'd strongly suggest taking a look at the Zen Neon first.

9 **Price:** \$299 (5GB) **Contact:** Creative Labs **Phone:** (02) 9021 9800 **Web:** www.au.creative.com + Great price + Excellent audio quality + Bucketloads of features



7.5 **Price:** \$379 (5GB) **Contact:** Creative Labs **Phone:** (02) 9021 9800 **Web:** www.au.creative.com + Removable battery + Good audio quality - Requires Creative software to work



an excellent A-weighted SNR of 96dB. The maximum output level of 797mV RMS is perfect for playing through your home stereo as well. Unfortunately, it lacks line-in recording, which Creative somehow managed to shoehorn into the smaller Neon. We also reckon Creative will have to do something about the price. At \$379, it doesn't look anywhere near as good as the \$299 Neon, despite being a decent player.

it handles WMA and MP3, along with .wav files and the Ogg Vorbis format. Ogg Vorbis support is sadly not as strong as it was when we did this feature last year, and the YH-820 was the only player we tested to support it. You also get an FM receiver, voice and line-in recording, as well as a colour screen that is capable of displaying jpg files. We're disappointed this one uses a

7 **Price:** \$379 (5GB) **Contact:** Samsung **Phone:** 1300 369 600 **Web:** www.samsung.com.au + Supports WAV and Ogg Vorbis formats + Good features - Average audio quality

**PORTABLE HARD DRIVE PLAYERS****Creative Zen**

If the Neon's 5GB of space isn't enough for all your music, then Creative's full-blown 20GB Zen is the way to go. At \$439, it's the cheapest 20GB player on the market and comes with extras that make it much better value than Apple's iPod. It adds in an FM receiver, voice recording, as well as .wav file playback support in addition to its MP3

and WMA capabilities. Again, Creative require you to use its software rather than just work with Windows Explorer directly. Another problem is the built-in Li-ion battery, but the fact is none of the four hard drive models we tested in this group give you the option of removable batteries, so your choice primarily comes down to features, price and audio quality. Luckily for the Zen, it

has the last criteria nailed. The Zen was the only player to keep 30kHz filtered THD levels below 0.1% across the board, and its 95.4dB A-weighted SNR is spot on with Creative's own claims. The maximum output signal of 780mV RMS will also perfectly slot in with your home stereo. If you're fussy about the quality of your music, but figure 5GB won't be enough, the Zen is your best bet. 

8 **Price:** \$439 (20GB) **Contact:** Creative Labs **Phone:** (02) 9021 9800 **Web:** www.au.creative.com + Good audio quality + Good features - Built-in battery

ADSL2/2+ = NETCOMM

YOUR FORMULA FOR THE FUTURE



NB5PLUS4W

Combines an ADSL Modem with a Router, 11g Wireless Access Point and 4-Port Ethernet Switch.
RRP \$220.00 INC GST



NB5PLUS4

Combines an ADSL Modem with a Router and 4-Port Ethernet Switch.
RRP \$149.60 INC GST

SHARE THE EXPERIENCE

Getting connected and sharing an ADSL Broadband service has never been easier.

Two new modem routers from NetComm let you access the new ADSL2/2+ services.* And if you are waiting for your ISP to upgrade their service, you'll be ready with a future proof solution that's perfectly compatible with standard ADSL for now.



Both models feature an advanced firewall to let you safely surf the web, play online games or share resources with the flexibility and performance you're looking for.

And with extensive manuals and free downloadable video tutorials, you can easily configure your model to suit a broad range of needs.

Do the maths now and talk to an authorised NetComm reseller

For more information, contact NetComm on (02) 9424 2070, email sales@netcomm.com.au or visit www.netcomm.com.au

*Your ISP must provide you with an ADSL2 or ADSL2+ service for this feature to be available. These products will operate as a standard ADSL modem router when an ADSL2/2+ service is not available.

NetComm
Broadband Solutions



ENTERTAINMENT ANYWHERE

© Apple iPod

The one thing the iPod has going for it (apart from Apple's phenomenal marketing prowess) is an easy-to-use interface. And despite having barely changed since its introduction, the styling still looks as clean as it did when it first arrived. What we don't like is the fact that Apple requires you to pay extra for third-party add-ons that other vendors include in their players for free, such as an FM radio and voice recording. Then there's iTunes, which basically takes over your PC as far as anything audio goes and acts as the gatekeeper between you and your iPod. In addition, the only way to replace the battery is via a \$99 Apple servicing, the iPod will eventually cost you more than the sticker price. As for audio quality, the iPod does reasonably well, but not quite as well as the Creative Zen. Its 92dB A-weighted SNR result is very good, but its 15kHz THD filtered rating at 0.167% isn't exactly pretty. What we do like is the huge 1004mV output signal — that's the highest of any player we've tested — and Apple's earphones, which bring music to life. The colour screen is now standard on the iPod, and it's aimed at letting you view your favourite photos. Unless the iPod comes with a bonus magnifying glass that we don't know about, we can't see why you'd bother, as the screen is a little small to make this useful. All up, although the iPod still looks good, it lacks the advanced features of other players and its audio quality could use a little work.



7.5 Price: \$449 (20GB)
Contact: Apple
Phone: 13 36 22
Web: www.apple.com.au
Great design + Passable
audio quality - No
extra features - Requires iTunes
software

Samsung YH-925

The YH-925 has features that are missing from the iPod, such as voice and line-in recording. It matches the current iPod with its colour screen and JPEG image display capabilities. However, the audio quality was not as good, with THD levels at 15kHz pushing beyond 0.4% with 30kHz filtering. The 1kHz filtered THD level of 0.017% is good, but the 15kHz result effectively ruins that. Its A-weighted SNR result of 87dB is also not as good as either the iPod or Creative Zen. We're not fans of the earphones either. The YH-925GS does have some good features, but the not-so-good audio quality takes away some of the shine.

DRIVE-BASED MP3 PLAYERS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	Apple iPod	Creative Zen	Creative Zen Micro	Creative Zen Neon	Pioneer DreamVision HD200	Samsung YH-820	Samsung YH-925
Price	\$449	\$439	\$379	\$299	\$479	\$379	\$449
SPECIFICATIONS							
Storage type	Hard drive	Hard drive	Micro-drive	Micro-drive	Hard drive	Micro-drive	Hard drive
Rated capacity	20GB	20GB	5GB	5GB	20GB	5GB	20GB
True capacity (bytes)	19,915,575,296	19,920,117,760	4,917,370,880	4,958,322,688	19,985,842,176	4,991,205,376	19,985,842,176
Onboard memory expansion	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
USB connection	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Battery power	Integrated Lilon	Integrated Lilon	Removable Lilon	Integrated Lilon	Integrated Lilon	Integrated Lilon	Integrated Lilon
Weight (grams)	165	141	107	74	167	85	156
FEATURES							
LCD screen	Yes (colour)	Yes (mono)	Yes (mono)	Yes (mono)	Yes (mono)	Yes (colour)	Yes (colour)
FM receiver	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Line-in recording	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Voice recording	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
FM transmitter	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Bundled speakers	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Works with Windows Explorer	No	No	Yes (requires software)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FORMAT SUPPORT							
WAV/Ogg Vorbis	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	No/No	Yes/Yes	No/No
MP3/WMA	Yes/No	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes
TEST RESULTS							
THD at 50Hz (flat)	0.19%	0.13%	0.13%	0.20%	0.72%	0.44%	0.42%
THD at 1kHz (flat)	0.21%	0.19%	0.19%	0.20%	0.73%	0.12%	0.12%
THD at 15kHz (flat)	2.64%	2.41%	2.39%	0.23%	3.11%	0.70%	0.62%
THD at 50Hz (30kHz LPF)	0.041%	0.023%	0.023%	0.012%	0.045%	0.128%	0.124%
THD at 1kHz (30kHz LPF)	0.028%	0.024%	0.024%	0.010%	0.032%	0.020%	0.017%
THD at 15kHz (30kHz LPF)	0.167%	0.081%	0.081%	0.048%	0.166%	0.428%	0.410%
SNR (1kHz at 1dBFS) (flat)	65.1dB	64.4dB	64.3dB	73.8dB	42.6dB	64.2dB	63.6dB
SNR (1kHz at 1dBFS) (A-weighted)	92.7dB	95.4dB	96dB	92.2dB	79.6dB	86.9dB	87.4dB
Maximum output signal (mV RMS)	1004	780	797	384	167	582	609
Earphone quality (bass/treble) out of 10	8.5/8.5	8/7	7.5/7	8/7	7.5/7.5	7.5/6	7.5/6



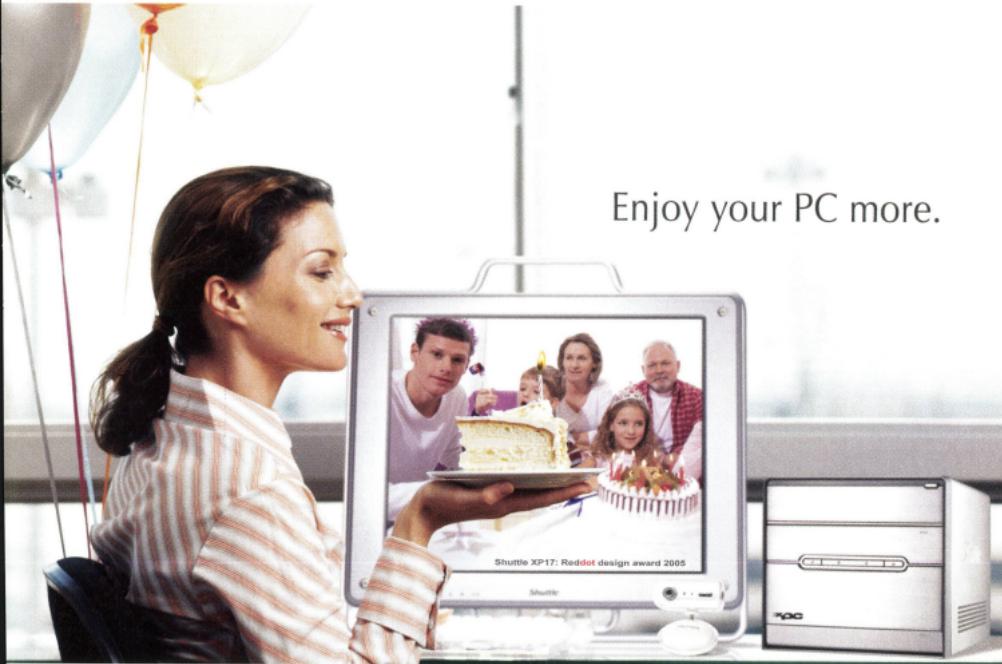
7 Price: \$449 (20GB)
Contact: Samsung
Phone: 1300 369 600
Web: www.samsung.com.au
+ Lots of features
+ Colour screen - Audio quality just lacking



6 Price: \$479
Contact: Pioneer Computers Australia
Phone: (02) 9690 2888
Web: www.pioneercomputers.com.au
+ Good features - Poor audio - Too pricey



The most disappointing result was the flat-response SNR of just 42.6dB, which is about as good as a typical cassette tape. Even with A-weighted filtering, it only managed 79dB. The maximum output level of just 167mV RMS was also the lowest we've seen. On the other hand, its THD figures were surprisingly good, given everything else. All up though, this is one to steer clear of.



Enjoy your PC more.

With the advanced performance of the Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor with HT Technology,
the XPC G5 8300 is the heart of your digital home.



XPC G5 8300



► It all connects

Integrated media ports make it easy to share precious moments with family and friends.



◀ Superior style

The XPC with stealth drive covers is elegant in every environment.



• Quiet and cool

Silent X technologies deliver optimized cooling for exceptional stability and comfort.



Log on to www.shuttle.com today and

Official Distributors

Altech Computers
<http://www.altech.com.au>
Sydney (02) 9275 5655 Brisbane (07) 3817 2000

M. W. WOODWARD

Multimedia Technology
<http://www.mmt.com.au>

Official Distributors in New Zealand

CONEXTECH
<http://www.conextech.co.nz>

ZCOM Computer
<http://www.zcom.co.nz>



Movies and music on the go

Nick Mailath tests eight devices that let you take your music and movies with you.

Portable media players (PMPs) first appeared around this time last year, and since then there are a number of options available, from a basic portable video player right up to fancy-pants models that can control

your TV and VCR.

If you're in the market, there are a few things to consider. Most important is to figure out what features you consider vital, as many players have strengths in one area, but are weak in others. Audio is not so much a matter of the player's hardware, but the quality of audio it can decode. Low-quality 4-bit ADPCM may be passable using headphones, but it's not good enough for playback through a home theatre system. The size of the unit may also play a big

part in your decision.

We'd also recommend shopping around for devices that don't actually bill themselves as PMPs. Take the Sony PSP: if you're looking for portable entertainment, it doesn't get much better than

this. You can play games, watch movies and play music on the one device for around the same price as a low-end PMP. The bottom line is shop around to make sure you get what you want in a PMP. There are plenty of good options out there.

Sorell SV-10

We first tested the Sorell SV-10 in *PC User* April (see page 130), and it remains the king of the PMPs, with its high-quality screen and extensive features. It comes with a built-in FM radio tuner and 1.3MP camera for recording video and taking photos. The player has both AV in and out, so you can record from any source or play your media files on your TV or stereo. The SV-10 can play back most video formats and also includes conversion software for anything it can't play.

Its battery life was second only to the Creative Zen

Portable Media Center, with the former producing 7 hours of constant video with the sound on. Playback of standard XviD movies is this player's one weak point — there was the occasional stutter in our testing, but it was still watchable. By comparison, DivX playback was very smooth. The audio output was loud enough for a couple of people to listen to comfortably and the audio quality was also very good.

The joystick provided for navigation is a little small and takes some getting used to, but remains effective. Well-designed

TECH TERMS

ADPCM (Adaptive Differential Pulse Code Modulation). A PCM encoding technique that uses about half the space of normal PCM, but introduces a lot of noise.

PCM (Pulse Code Modulation). Uncompressed digital audio, more commonly known as .wav files or CD audio.



9 **Price:** \$799 **Contact:** mStation Phone: 1300 131 035 **Web:** www.mstation.com.au + Good screen + Long battery life – Some problems with XviD playback

menus also help ease of use. The player is quite comfortable to hold and weighing only 230g, it's very portable. Adding to this unit's appeal is an excellent screen with high contrast and a good picture clarity.

The Sorell SV-10 remains the



best PMP we have seen, although the competition is definitely catching up. Ultimately though, this unit's comparatively low price and extensive features still keep it ahead of the others.

Archos Gmini 400

The Archos Gmini is the smallest PMP we have seen so far, weighing only 165g and with a footprint that's a little larger than a standard business card. Its 2.2in colour screen is clear and easy to read, and a four-way D-pad button is used to move through the menu system. The other buttons on the player take a little getting used to. For example, the button that turns the player on will not turn it off — you have to hold the Back button to achieve this, which is

a little counterintuitive. On the whole though, it is quite easy to find your way around the interface once you know its quirks.

Video playback on the Gmini was a little choppy when using MP3 audio, but fine with ADPCM. No re-encoding software is included with the player, but a conversion program is available from the Archos Web site. However, you may be better off trying some of the more popular free

8.5 **Price:** \$699 **Contact:** World Technology **Distribution Phone:** (03) 9310 3497 **Web:** www.archos.com + Compact size + 20GB storage – Limited media support



encoding software (like Auto Gordian Knot), as we had some problems getting the Archos software to work correctly. A Compact Flash (CF) socket is built into the side of the player, into which you can plug your CF storage card or a CF-sized card

reader, should you wish to read a different flash card format. The Archos Gmini is the only player here that will fit in your pocket without tearing your pants, so if compact is what you're after, this is definitely worth considering.



Epson P-2000

The Epson P-2000 is not a dedicated media player as such, but it has the capability all the same. It's primarily intended to be used as a picture viewer for digital photos, but can also play MP4 videos (like the Sony PSP) and MP3/AAC audio files.

Screen quality was obviously a priority when Epson was designing the P-2000 and it's a clear cut above the rest of the players in this regard. The 3.8in screen can handle a resolution of 640 by 480 and it produces the best images we've seen on a handheld device. Photos come out sharp, bright and vibrantly

coloured. This quality is not limited to image files either; the difference when watching videos on this player compared to most of the others was astounding. Video playback was smooth once converted with a suitable program (PSP Video 9 works well — see page 66) and audio is respectable, too. There is only a single speaker in the back of the unit, but it still produces clear sound at a reasonable volume. It also has a built-in CF and SecureDigital card reader, so you can easily copy your flash memory card data onto the

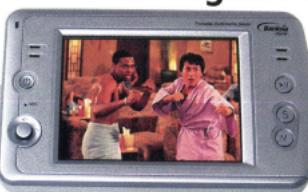
8.5
Price: \$899
Contact: Epson Phone: (02) 8899 3666 Web: www.epson.com.au
+ Excellent screen
+ 40GB hard drive
- Poor battery life



unit's 40GB hard drive. The only two complaints we have about this unit are its size and battery life. The P-2000 is slightly larger than the Creative PMP, and the largest unit we tested. The battery lasted around 2 hours 15 minutes while watching

video, which is a far cry from the other players. However, the battery is user replaceable, so a spare (or two) would fix this problem. If you're willing to overlook the P-2000's few shortcomings, the rest of its features look mighty impressive.

Banksia Digital PMP20



Banksia Digital, the consumer electronics division of Australian company NetComm, recently released the PMP20, and it's a player that has quite a few unique features packed in.

The most notable of these are the touchscreen interface and the capacity to record video. A stylus is also included, which is stored in the back of the player. The video recording saves to

8
Price: \$755
Contact: NetComm
Phone: (02) 9424 2070
Web: www.netcomm.com.au + Touchscreen
+ Good price - Average screen contrast

Creative Zen Portable Media Center

The Creative Zen Portable Media Center (PMC) was one of the first portable media players on the market, and even close to a year after its release, it still offers enough features to keep the competition on their toes. One of the best things about the PMC is its interface. Built on the Windows Mobile operating system, it has a very familiar look to Windows XP Media Center Edition. It's by far the easiest to navigate of all those we looked at. This is also in part due to there being little room to get confused — the

interface has been developed to be straightforward without sacrificing functionality.

Windows Media Player (WMP) 10 is the only software that will interface with the player; it won't show up as a hard drive in Windows Explorer like most others. This also means it can't be used as a portable hard drive, as WMP can only access media files. The biggest annoyance with the PMC is the requirement that all your music and videos be converted to Windows Media Audio or Video files

ASF format, and generally works well. You can also record audio via the external input or the internal microphone. General media file playback was also good, although some DivX files simply refused to play while others worked fine.

The PMP20 includes some unique extras, like a calculator, paint program, calendar and memo function. Using the touchscreen, these features are easy to use and can be quite handy, but if you misplace the stylus they'll be close to useless. The unit has two built-

in speakers and comes with a dock, headphones, A/V cables and a carry case. Video playback will last about 3 hours — an OK result, but significantly behind the Creative and Sorell players. The PMP20 is a little bulky at 294g, but it's still comfortable to hold, thanks to good case design. Like most of the PMPs we reviewed, the PMP20 includes a CF slot for either a card or card reader. All up, the Banksia Digital PMP20 is quite a decent unit. It has heaps of features and is competitively priced to boot.

8
Price: \$799
Contact: Creative
Labs Phone: (02)
9021 9898 Web: www.au.creative.com + Best
battery life - Clean user
interface - Only plays
WMV and WMA



before being transferred to the PMC. This removes the trial and error as to which formats will play, but a standard 700MB DivX file will take around 35 minutes to re-encode on a 2.4GHz Pentium 4. In our testing, even the re-encoded

files seemed a little stuttery at times. With its long battery life and excellent user interface, the Creative Zen Portable Media Center is still a good buy, which is quite an achievement considering it was originally released a year ago. 



ENTERTAINMENT ANYWHERE

© MSI Mega View 566

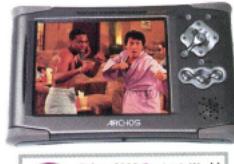


7.5 Price: \$599 Contact: MSI
Computer Australia
Phone: (02) 9748 0070
Web: www.msicomputer.com.au
+ Includes spare battery + Plenty of features - Poor screen quality

Except for a few minor changes, the Mega View 566 is pretty much the same as the 561 model we previously tested in March (see page 114). This new version comes with a second backup battery, which can extend your battery life to up to 7 hours; it also has an SD/MMC card slot incorporated into the back of the player. It is fairly compact compared to most of the others and, weighing just 230g, is comfortable to hold and carry around. The 3.5in screen doesn't have the best picture due to the LCD's high dot pitch rating, but it is still bright and generally acceptable.

The player's best feature is its price — at \$599 it's the least expensive player we tested. Moreover, despite its low price, the 566 doesn't lack features at all; in fact, it has more than most. Overall, this new Mega View is a great-value player that is held back only by its slightly sub-par screen. If you're not fazed by this, it's a good buy.

Archos AV420



7 Price: \$899 Contact: World Technology Distribution
Phone: (03) 9310 3497
Web: www.archos.com + Includes video recording + Remote control function - Pricy

The AV420 is the larger brother of the Gmini. The AV420 is designed to be more of a digital video recorder than the Gmini. As such, it can record in excess of 80 hours of video on its 20GB Hitachi hard disk. The included dock has all the A/V input cables you need to connect your

TV or VCR. However, all these cables are permanently attached to the dock, seriously reducing its portability. The AV420 can also be programmed to act as a remote control for your VCR. The main things holding it back are its limited media support (it only plays MPEG-4 files and has issues with MP3-encoded video playback) and lack of encoding software, although there are plenty of freeware options.

Orbit DMP-768T

The Orbit is not quite as portable as the other PMPs, but despite its large size, it should still fit comfortably in a backpack or shoulder bag. With its 7in screen and large battery it weighs a hefty 837g. The unit's screen quality isn't too bad and DivX and XviD playback was surprisingly smooth in our tests. The unit did get fairly warm when in use for extended

HOW WE TESTED

Where applicable, each of the players was tested using a variety of different media file formats, such as DivX, XviD, MPEG-1/2, WMV, MP3 and WMA. Each player's capabilities with these files was used to judge the general quality of the audio and video playback.

The battery life of each unit was tested by looping a full-length movie until the player shut off completely.



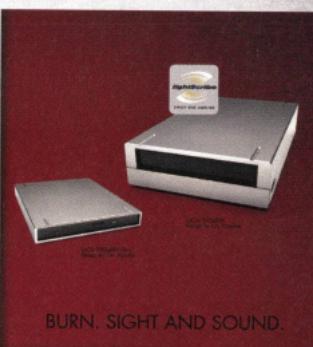
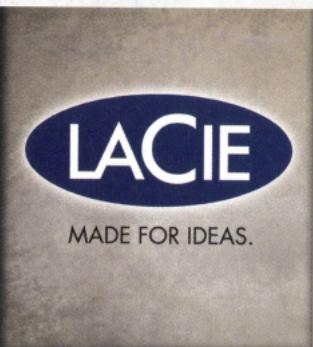
7 Price: \$795 Contact: Aggeggi Phone: 1300 559 593 Web: www.aggeggi.com.au + 30GB hard drive + Large 7in screen - Poor battery life

PORTABLE MEDIA PLAYERS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	Archos AV420	Archos Gmini 400	Banksia Digital PMP20	Creative Zen Portable Media Center	Epson P-2000	MSI Mega View 566	Orbit DMT-768T	Sorell SV-10
Price	\$899	\$699	\$755	\$799	\$899	\$599	\$795	\$799
Screen size	3.5in	2.2in	3.5in	3.8in	3.8in	3.5in	7in	3.5in
Storage capacity	20GB	20GB	20GB	20GB	40GB	20GB	30GB	20GB
Memory card slot(s)	CF	CF	CF	None	CF, SD/MMC	SD/MMC	None	None
Removable battery	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Tested battery life (hours:minutes)	3:25	5:00	3:00	10:00	2:30	3:30	2:30	7:00
Player weight	272g	164g	294g	352g	410g	245g	837g	230g
Audio/video recording	Yes/Yes	Yes/No	Yes/Yes	No/No	No/No	Yes/Yes	No/No	Yes/Yes
Voice recording	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Stand/carry case included	Yes/No	No/No	Yes/Yes	No/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	No/Yes	Yes/Yes
Encoding software included	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes (trial version)	No	Yes
Integrated camera	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Onboard games	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Remote	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
FM radio	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Touchscreen interface	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes



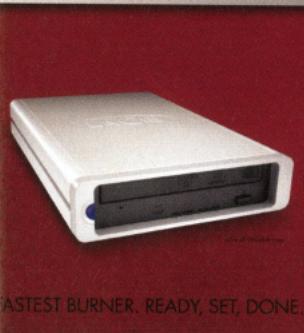
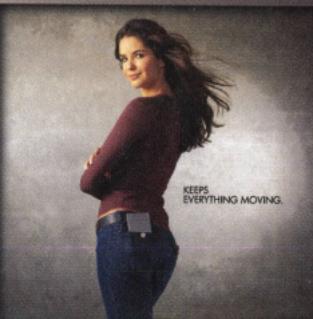
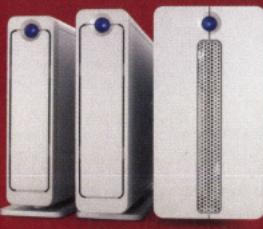
STORE. YOUR CREATIVE VISION.



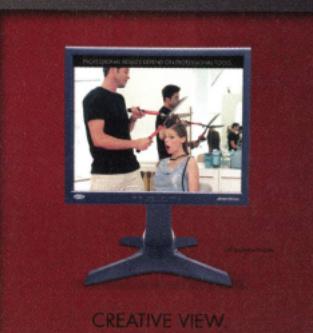
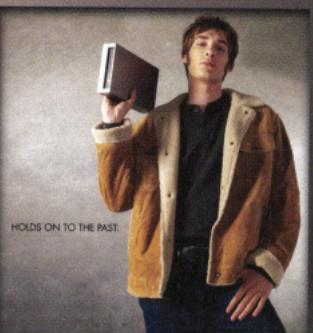
BURN. SIGHT AND SOUND.



d2 THE GROWING FAMILY.



FASTEST BURNER. READY, SET, DONE.



www.lacie.com/au

sales.au@lacie.com • tel: (02) 9669 6900

Available from Apple & PC resellers. Distributed by Ingram Micro & ExpressOnline.

The big picture

Want to see more of your favourite movies, games and applications?

Darren Yates tests 18 of the latest big-screen monitors.

TECH TERMS

Response time. For LCD monitors only, this is the time it takes for any pixel to switch from one extreme to another and back again — either from black to white to black, or vice versa. Technically, it's the accumulation of the rise and fall times (Tr and Tf). It's measured in milliseconds and generally, faster is better, but don't be conned by some of the hype regarding this. The faster the response time, the less the chance of smearing or ghosting, but the greater the likelihood the viewing angles will be atrocious. It's a very rare LCD monitor that is perfect when it comes to viewing angles and ghosting.

Colour inversion. This is a fault with many LCD monitors that appears when you view the monitor from below (and sometimes above) horizontal. As you increase the angle from the centre of the screen, the colours change and eventually appear as a negative of themselves. It's this fault that makes them a poor choice for accuracy-critical colour work, such as desktop publishing.

Ghosting/smearing. LCD monitors that are too slow in their response time (generally anything slower than 16ms), cannot switch pixels on and off fast enough to match the incoming new image. The result is often a smearing or 'ghost trail' of previous images, as old ones aren't removed before new ones are displayed. It's not usually a problem for general Windows work, but for 3D gaming and DVD movies, it's a disaster. Doesn't occur on CRT monitors.

The computer monitor industry is currently going through a bit of a sea change. Good, old CRT monitors are being consigned to the technology scrap heap as LCD monitors continue coming in by the shipload. But 'big' is definitely the buzzword for the moment, with large-screen monitors in both CRT and LCD formats drastically coming down in price and skyrocketing in popularity.

We tested a range of 19in CRT and LCD monitors for this roundup, and we also looked at some of the latest 20in and larger widescreen LCD monitors for good measure.

What we found

This time last year, 17in LCD monitors were all the rage and their image quality suffered because of poor viewing angles. The 19in models had lousy response times, resulting in ghosted images on DVD movies and 3D games.

This time around, 17in LCD monitors are cheap (under \$400), but it's the bigger screens that are growing in popularity. Yet even these new models are not without their problems.

In terms of response time, the latest 19in LCD models are now as fast as last year's 17in units. Unfortunately, they also exhibit the same poor viewing angles, which pose some real problems: there's no way you could use one of these as a screen for your home theatre PC, for example.

For personal 3D gaming use, the lower response times mean these LCDs are now fast enough to remove any ghosting or smearing. But for serious gaming, LCDs still have a serious limitation and that's resolution. All the 19in LCD monitors we tested offer a maximum resolution of 1,280 by 1,024 pixels. Moreover, the nature of LCD technology means the vast majority of these screens look ordinary at anything less than this.

It's hard to compare this with a good 19in CRT monitor, which has no ghosting, great viewing angles, great image quality at almost any resolution and a maximum resolution that can go all the way to 2,048 by 1,536 pixels. With many new games offering support for 2,048 by 1,536 resolution, a 19in LCD monitor could leave you

shortchanged if you're a gamer.

CRT monitors are also considerably cheaper. Most 19in models can be had for under \$400, which is about half your average 19in LCD monitor. With all this going for them, you'd be mad to write CRTs off your list.

If you have the cash, there's also the possibility of going for a widescreen LCD monitor. Despite reviewing six models for this story, we still think there's only one widescreen LCD monitor you should bother checking out and that's Dell's awesome 2405FPW. It's bigger and cheaper than almost anything else, and reigns supreme over the other big-screen models. In our view, it's really the only LCD monitor that does everything right, making it ideal for personal or home theatre use.

There's plenty of hype around about LCD monitors; some of it is true, but most of it's not. Chosen carefully, an LCD monitor can be a great addition to your PC, but don't discount the old CRT monitor. Old they may be, but for some applications, particularly 3D gaming, you won't find anything better at an affordable price.

19IN LCD MONITORS

Mitsubishi DV197SB

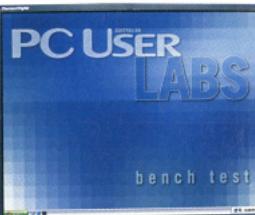
The DV197SB is one of the better units in this category and although it suffers from some of the typical TFT LCD monitor problems, it's better than most.

It produced good results on both our extreme greyscale and pixel-tracking/phase lock tests, with excellent images on both. We saw no problems on our 3D gaming tests, and DVD movie playback wasn't too bad either. As good as it was, these results were tempered by the poor vertical viewing angle, which seems to show up on every LCD screen with a response time

B **Price:** \$579 **Contact:** Mitsubishi Electric **Phone:** (02) 9684 7777 **Web:** www.mitsubishi-electric.com.au **+ Excellent greyscale testing** **+ No smearing or ghosting** **- Poor vertical viewing angle**

of under 20ms, so you won't be able to use this as a home theatre monitor.

The DV197SB uses an external power brick, but its VGA and DVI sockets give you both analog and digital connectivity options. It even autosyncs to the incoming video



signal whenever it changes and locks onto it as well.

We wouldn't call this the perfect LCD monitor, but it comes reasonably close.

BenQ FP91V+

The FP91V+ is another OK LCD, but unfortunately, its image quality was undone by leakage from the blue power LED onto the screen.

When viewing dark images, there was a small yet noticeable blue hue cast over the bottom inch of the screen, which we believe could only be coming from the LED. It's a real pity, because otherwise this was one

of the better performing units.

Extreme greyscale testing showed this to handle contrast levels well, with only the very extreme black level not being visible. Our pixel-tracking/phase lock test showed no noise or colour errors at all. It performed well on 3D gaming and DVD movies showed a generally good and balanced level of brightness and contrast. Given its 6ms response time, the FP91V+'s good contrast levels came as something of a surprise.

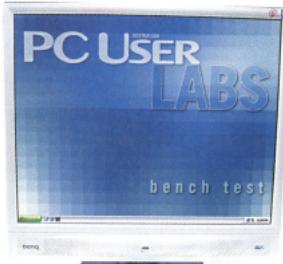
LG Flatron L1950S

The L1950S is quite a stylish design with its thin bezel, but it was another to do poorly in our pixel-tracking/phase lock test. While it passed our extreme greyscale test with only the very end tips of near-whites and near-blacks disappearing into the mud, it was another monitor to display a distinctive pink hue on our pixel-tracking test.

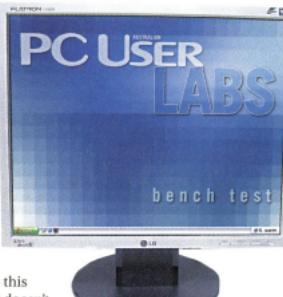
Its 12ms response time was fast enough to keep it out of trouble on our gaming tests, with no visible smearing or ghosting of video images visible. Its DVD playback quality was also quite good, with no visible contrast errors. This goes to show that although many of these monitors boast a response

time of 8ms or less, once this figure gets below 16ms it doesn't make that much difference in practice. Its onscreen controls are a bit on the small side, but they're well labelled, which makes a nice change. Our test unit also failed to sync up the video when the signal changed,

Unfortunately, and as usual, the vertical viewing angles were awful, with the resultant colour inversion throwing colour accuracy out the window. However, with DVI and VGA inputs, integrated AC power and an autosync on signal feature, this one has potential if you're a keen 3D gamer. That said, at \$799 we'd still recommend you check out a good CRT monitor first.



7.5
Price: \$799 Contact: BenQ
Phone: (02) 9352 8800
Web: www.benq.com.au
+ Generally good image quality
- Fast response times - Blue LED leakage onto screen



but the unit's one-touch auto setup button somewhat compensates for that.

It's not a standout monitor, but it's a generally creditable performer.

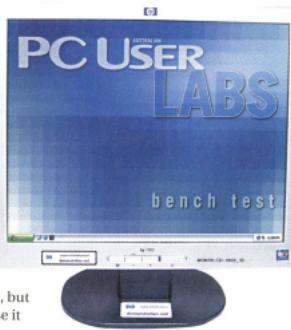
HP L1902

The L1902 is the only monitor we received from HP for this roundup, and despite having a comparatively slow 16ms response time, it also suffered from image quality issues.

It struggled on our extreme greyscale test, unable to handle near-whites or near-blacks and it exhibited an inability to lock correctly to our pixel-tracking/phase lock test. It handled 3D gaming well though, with no ghosting at all. However, some contrast crushing on skin tones was visible on DVD movie playback.

Its poor vertical viewing angle didn't help either. As usual, this is a monitor that would be fine provided you're

7
Price: \$599
Contact: HP
Phone: 13 13 47
Web: www.hp.com.au
+ No image ghosting
- Poor contrast/ECS response - Anchored VGA cable



sitting right in front of it, but we certainly wouldn't use it for home theatre use.

It only offers a single VGA input and that's via an anchored cable, which makes it more difficult to replace if damaged.

HP gets points for styling and easy-find controls, but there are no real standout features on this LCD.

TECH TERMS
Contrast ratio. The difference or ratio between video-standard black and white colour levels. Typically, this is about 500:1 for LCD monitors, but 5,000:1 for CRT monitors; the higher it is, the better. Poor-contrast monitors have trouble showing extreme greyscales (see below) and lack detail in darker and lighter image areas.
Extreme greyscale (EGS). This is the term for what's known as near-whites and near-blacks — colours that are very close to video-standard or 'perfect black' and 'perfect white'. On poor-quality monitors, these near-whites and blacks are indistinguishable from perfect black and perfect white. The result is poor or no image detail in any dark, shadowed areas in games or DVDs. Clouds and brighter areas do the same, often simply going completely white.

Phase lock. When a video signal is connected to a monitor, it has to adjust itself to lock onto the phase of the incoming signal to match it with the monitor's screen pixels or dots. If the monitor doesn't, the screen pixels won't correctly match the image pixels in the video signal and the result will look awful. Good monitors will automatically perform this phase lock, others require a one-touch button, while others again require you to delve into an onscreen menu.

© NEC AccuSync LCD92V

The LCD92V is one of the weaker models we tested in terms of specs, as it had comparatively low contrast and brightness levels and a slow 16ms response time. It couldn't handle our extreme greyscale test, with near-whites disappearing, while near-blacks were nicely visible. However, the pixel-tracking/phase lock test produced good results all round, with no phase-locking issues and no colour errors.

Gameplay testing showed no visible tearing or smearing, but we did notice that an off-centre horizontal side view revealed a general colour cast that turned black into a slight green. DVD movie playback wasn't too bad, although we had to be careful with the brightness or risk crushing brighter areas of the image.

The LCD92V's onscreen display controls were easy to find, but impossible to read.

Philips 190S6

The 190S6 is Philips' entry-level 19in TFT monitor (Philips has a reasonable selection on offer) and while its fast response time gives it good gaming potential, the image quality itself needs a little work. Yet in a contradictory way, the 190S6 produced one of the sharpest images we've seen yet – just excellent clarity all the way. And while this held up on the extreme greyscale test, a

pink hue was clearly visible on our pixel-tracking/phase lock test on the upper left-hand side of the display.

That said, its response rate held up well on 3D gaming tests, with no smearing or ghosting visible. DVD movie playback was generally OK as well, but we did notice an odd green cast over the video. It was subtle, but definitely noticeable. The vertical viewing angle was pretty ordinary, showing clear

Price: \$580 Contact: NEC Phone: 13 16 32 Web: www.nec.com.au
+ No image ghosting – Poor EGS performance – Background colour hue

NEC is one of a number of vendors simply etching the labels into the bezel, making them difficult to read. The bezel itself is also one of the thickest we've seen, so we think it's time NEC modernised its LCD

colour inversion errors when seen from below. We hate to sound like a broken record, but fast response times don't guarantee great image quality.

For Windows work, this one wouldn't be too bad, but we'd only recommend it for 3D gaming and personal DVD viewing at a pinch. It's definitely not suitable for home theatre viewing.

Acer AL1913sm

The AL1913sm is one of the older-style 19in models, with a comparatively slow 23ms response time. That means that while its viewing angles are excellent, its ability to handle serious gameplay is minimal and its DVD playback quality marginal at best. The amount of image ghosting visible on this monitor on *DOOM 3* made it just unplayable.

Its contrast levels of 800:1 are among the best you'll see, but from our experience it appears you can only get the very good contrast this monitor displays by having a slow response time.

Being the slowest monitor in the roundup, Acer has also realistically priced this as the cheapest 19in LCD we looked at, with a street price of around \$470. Built-in speakers plus the ability to feed in a signal via the VGA or DVI inputs certainly help this unit's overall value. ☺

HOW WE TESTED

Testing monitors is largely about visual perception: there are no readily available tools that offer truly quantitative results. However, we've devised a series of visual tests that enable us to get to the bottom of image quality.

◆ **Extreme greyscale (EGS) test.** This test forces each monitor to display a series of colour swatches at various shades of grey approaching white and black (these are called near-whites and near-blacks). These are displayed on a background of perfect white and perfect black respectively. A good-quality monitor will display near-whites and near-blacks so that they are still distinguishable in their varying degrees from the background colour. Poor-quality monitors will lose these 'near' colours into the background colour. A monitor that produces poor EGS test results generally has a low contrast ratio, which results in poor detail in darker areas in DVD movies and 3D games such as *DOOM 3*.

◆ **Pixel-tracking/phase lock testing.** This is a new test we're using that shows how well each monitor displays interlocking greyscale pixels. A good-quality monitor will show this test screen as a clean, pure grey image. A poor-quality monitor will often show up a particular colour cast, typically pink, in one area of the screen. Another cast, which tests the monitor's ability to lock onto the video signal correctly (known as 'phase locking') is digital noise on the screen. This should be corrected by the monitor's autosync function, but may require you to manually adjust the picture using the onscreen menu options. Very poor-quality monitors

are those that exhibit colour errors and digital noise that can't be corrected.

◆ **DVD movie playback.** Here we use a DVD movie to check for contrast levels, particularly in darker and lighter areas. A poor contrast level can show up as either poor detail in darker areas such as shadows, but it can also appear as crushed tones where skin tones or white clouds appear as perfect white, rather than as continuously varying shades.

◆ **3D game playback.** Here, we use *DOOM 3* to check not only contrast problems, but also ghosting or smearing issues. Monitors with too slow a response time will show ghosted images of previous frames. Bad ghosting makes gaming all but impossible.

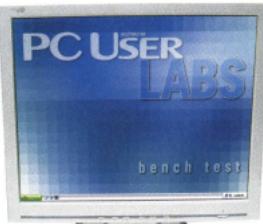
◆ **Viewing angles.** With home theatre growing in popularity, viewing angles of monitors (the angle at which it's possible to view the screen and still see the image correctly) are very important. You can't sit everyone in a direct line perpendicular to the monitor screen, so a good wide viewing angle, both horizontally and vertically, is vital. Just about all LCD monitors have good horizontal viewing angles, but many suffer poor vertical angles. On these monitors, viewing the image from below the centre of the screen will often appear as though you're looking at a negative of the real thing. This is called 'colour inversion' and it's a serious problem with many LCD monitors.

Each of these tests is scored out of 10, which together with each monitor's features and price, go towards making up the final rating out of 10.



monitor design.

Overall, the LCD92V is typical of most LCD monitors: some good features undone by a couple of drawbacks.



Price: \$539 Contact: Philips Phone: 1800 009 300 Web: www.philips.com.au
+ Sharp image – No image ghosting – Poor vertical viewing angle

Reliability Runs in the Family

I look up to
my new big brother...
he's tall, he's fast,
and he's tough!

My little brother
takes after me... not
only are we both
handsome, we both get
the job done!



Bravo II
DISC PUBLISHER



BravoPro
DISC PUBLISHER

See Bravo II &
BravoPro in action during
our Primera Roadshow.
Visit www.region4.com.au/roadshow
for details.

We've got everything you need for fast and affordable CD/DVD duplication and printing.

Primera's award-winning **Bravo II™ Disc Publisher** burns and prints up to 50 discs at a time. It combines fast, automatic CD/DVD duplication with built-in 4800 dpi color printing. It's an incredible "all-in-one" disc factory that sits right on your desktop! Mac and PC compatible. Just **\$3299***.

Need to make lots of discs? The all-new **BravoPro™ Disc Publisher** tackles all of your high-volume, professional disc publishing and duplicating jobs. It has two CD or DVD/CD drives and the fastest printing available. Mac and PC compatible. Just **\$5299***.

Key Features of Bravo II

- 50-disc capacity
- One high-speed CD or DVD/CD recordable drive
- 4800 dpi printing
- Windows® XP/2000 and Mac® compatible

Key Features of BravoPro

- 100-disc capacity
- Two high-speed CD or DVD/CD recordable drives
- 4800 dpi printing with 3 picoliter droplet size
- Windows® XP/2000 and Mac® compatible

For more information and a **FREE** sample disc from either Bravo II or BravoPro,
call us on (03) 9-58-58-DVD (9585-8383) or email sales@region4.com.au.
Or visit us on the web at www.region4.com.au.

PRIMERA
TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Region4 Pty Ltd 3 Wandarri Crt Cheltenham VIC 3192
Ph: 03 9585 8383 Fx: 03 9585 8377 Email: sales@region4.com.au Web: www.region4.com.au

*RRP inc. GST for CD only versions. DVD/CD versions also available.

Bravo is a trademark and Primera is a registered trademark of Primera Technology, Inc. Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. Mac is a trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. registered in the U.S. and other countries. © 2005, Primera Technology, Inc.

PROUDLY
DISTRIBUTED BY
 REGION 4

but this really is a monitor that is better suited to the business world. It would be ideal as a presentation monitor,

thanks to its wide viewing angles, for example. However, for anything else — like movies and gaming — forget about it.

19in LCD MONITORS: HOW THEY COMPARE

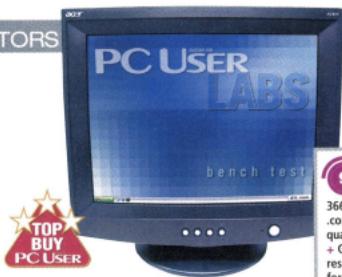
Model	Acer AL1913sm	BenQ FP91V+	HP L1902	LG Flatron L1950S	Mitsubishi DV1975B	NEC AccuSync LCD92V	Philips 19056	ViewSonic VX924
Price	\$469	\$799	\$599	\$529	\$579	\$580	\$539	\$749
SPECIFICATIONS								
Native resolution (pixels)	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024
Response time (ms)	23	6	16	12	8	16	8	4
Contrast ratio	800:1	450:1	500:1	500:1	550:1	450:1	500:1	550:1
Brightness (cd/m ²)	300	400	250	250	270	250	250	270
Dot pitch (mm)	N/A	0.294	0.294	N/A	0.294	0.294	0.294	N/A
Horizontal scanning frequency	N/A	31 to 81kHz	N/A	30 to 83kHz	30 to 83kHz	31 to 81kHz	30 to 83kHz	30 to 82kHz
Vertical scanning frequency	N/A	56 to 76Hz	N/A	56 to 75Hz	55 to 75Hz	56 to 75Hz	56 to 76Hz	50 to 75Hz
INPUTS								
VGA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DVI	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
S-Video	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Composite video	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
FEATURES								
Height adjuster	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Swivel base	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Integrated AC power	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Detachable VGA cable	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Speakers (power rating)	Two 2.5W	Two 2W	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Autosync on signal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
One-touch auto setup	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
TEST RESULTS (out of 10)								
Extreme greyscale (EGS)	8	8	7	8	9	7	9	7
Pixel tracking/phase lock	9	9	7	6	9	9	6	7
Horizontal viewing angle	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Below perpendicular viewing angle	9	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Windows general use	8	9	8	8	9	8	8	8
PC gaming (DOOM 3)	5	8.5	7.5	8	9	8	8	8
DVD movie (Pearl Harbor)	6	8	7	7.5	7.5	7	7	7

19IN CRT MONITORS

Acer AC915

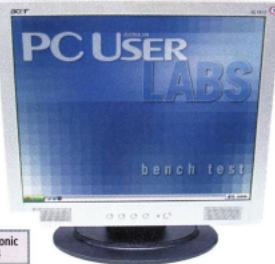
With CRT monitors quickly going the way of the dinosaur, the AC915 is arguably the best of what's left on the market. In terms of resolution, it's the lowest of the four we tested, with 1,600 by 1,200 pixel at 75Hz maximum. However, its styling was clean and its tube bezel not too overpowering. The relatively short-neck tube also means it doesn't take up your entire desktop.

We found this one ideal for movies and games. The smooth video playback made



DVD watching a pleasure, the resolution on offer is better than all of the 19in LCD monitors, and it looks fantastic on games such as DOOM 3.

Price: \$469
Contact: Acer
Phone: 1300 366 567
Web: www.acer.com.au
 + Cheapest LCD monitor we tested + Very good viewing angles - Slow response time results in image ghosting



ViewSonic VX924

The VX924 is one of the new breed of super-fast 4ms monitors starting to make a splash on the market. That response time is designed to remove any ghosting from 3D gaming or DVD movies and, for the most part in our testing, it did exactly that. But it had a couple of other issues.

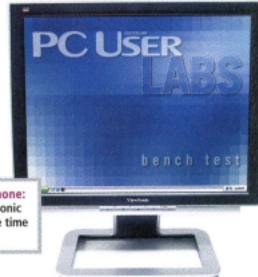
Firstly, we found it difficult to balance extreme greyscales and simply couldn't get it to display both near-blacks and near-whites. That translates into a lower contrast range than we expected. This showed up on our DVD movie playback test, with some crushing of whites. We also noticed some phase lock noise on our pixel-tracking test, showing that its autosync option had trouble locking onto this test image.

Secondly, its viewing angle from below was pretty awful. As such, this isn't a monitor we'd choose as part of a media centre PC setup for your lounge room. On the other hand, for 3D gaming, it would do well and for Windows desktop use, it was one of the sharpest LCD monitors we looked at.

Overall, this is not a bad monitor, but given the asking price — \$200 more than most others — it doesn't offer enough.

Price: \$245
Contact: Acer
Phone: 1300 366 567
Web: www.acer.com.au
 + Good image quality throughout + Good 1,600 by 1,200 resolution + Great value for money

7 **Price: \$749**
Contact: Synnex
Phone: 1300 100 100
Web: www.viewsonic.com.au
 - Not the best contrast — Very expensive





Diamond Digital

As if the
super slim design,
high specifications
and great value price
weren't enough to
raise your eyebrows.



Style and flexibility just became affordable, with the new Diamond Digital DV177 and DV197 monitors from Mitsubishi Electric Australia. The flexible, height adjustable stand will always ensure you get the best ergonomic position whilst you work, and the slim lines and narrow bezel make it stylish without cluttering your workspace. Add to this their 1280 x 1024 resolutions, high brightness and contrast, low response times, dual VGA and DVI-D connectors, and three year limited onsite warranty, the DV177 and DV197 will take your computing experience to new heights. Available in Beige and Silver/Black.



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC AUSTRALIA

Mitsubishi Electric Australia Pty. Ltd. 348 Victoria Rd, Rydalmere NSW 2116 Ph: (02) 9684 7777 Fax: (02) 9684 7208 www.MitsubishiElectric.com.au

© and Splinter Cell Chaos Theory. Obviously, there were no problems with viewing angles either, and the onscreen menu controls are well located and easily operated.

Image quality was excellent all round, with good sharpness and contrast making it a great option for home or office. And with Acer giving it a three-year onsite warranty, it's easy to replace if something should go wrong.

Its only real flaw is that it's not a flat-screen model, although that said, the unit's curvature isn't great and certainly didn't put us off while conducting our testing.

The AC915 doesn't have the best specs in this lineup, but it certainly has excellent styling and picture quality. For under \$250, it's got a pretty damn good price, too.

LG Flatron T910B

The T910B matches the ViewSonic G90f+ for technical specs, able to hit 2,048 by 1,536 pixel resolution at 60Hz, or a more reasonable 1,600 by 1,200 pixels at an almost flicker-free 75Hz. Its diagonal dot pitch of 0.24mm means it has the smallest pixels of all four monitors, potentially giving you the best picture. We certainly have no complaints here.

The T910B's extreme greyscale results were excellent, although we did notice a small amount of moiré patterning on the pixel mapping test. However, this was greatly reduced by adjusting the settings with the onscreen menu controls.

Gameplay and DVD movie



Price: \$349 **Contact:** LG Electronics **Phone:** 1800 725 375 **Web:** www.lge.com.au **Excellent resolution** + 1,600 by 1,200 pixels at 75Hz **refresh rate** + **Smallest dot pitch**

playback quality were both excellent, as you would expect. It's a real pity that the CRT market is drying up because it's impossible to go past these screens for DVD and 3D gaming: they can't be beaten for image smoothness and quality. Line up a 19in CRT and TFT monitor together with the same video signal and it's just so obvious that CRTs do video and gaming much better.



The fact that the T910B can get to 1,600 by 1,200 pixels at 75Hz also makes it a great option for serious 3D gaming at these higher resolutions. Unfortunately, the onscreen controls themselves aren't our favourite, as they're too small and poorly labelled. Many vendors are simply etching these labels into the bezel plastic and with no colour differentiation, you can barely see — let alone read — them.

Overall though, this is still a fine monitor.

19in CRT MONITORS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	Acer AC915	LG Flatron T910B	Mitsubishi DV992A	ViewSonic G90f+
Price	\$245	\$349	\$259	\$330
SPECIFICATIONS				
Max. resolution at max. refresh rate	1,600 by 1,200 at 75Hz	2,048 by 1,536 at 60Hz	1,920 by 1,440 at 60Hz	2,048 by 1,536 at 60Hz
Dot pitch (mm)	0.26	0.24	0.25	0.25
Flat/curved tube	Flat	Flat	Curved	Flat
Video bandwidth (MHz)	202	203	158	275
Vertical scanning frequency	30 to 98kHz	30 to 98kHz	30 to 92kHz	30 to 97kHz
Horizontal scanning frequency	50 to 160Hz	50 to 160Hz	50 to 160Hz	50 to 180Hz
Dimensions (W by H by D in mm)	435 by 446 by 455	443 by 450 by 458	440 by 447 by 441	448 by 465 by 459
Weight (kg)	Not disclosed	21	19.4	22
FEATURES				
Input	VGA	VGA	VGA	VGA
Height adjuster	No	No	No	No
Swivel base	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Integrated AC power	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Detachable VGA cable	No	No	No	No
Speakers (power rating)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TEST RESULTS (out of 10)				
Extreme greyscale (EGS)	9	9	6	8
Pixel-tracking/phase lock	10	8	9	8
Windows general use	8.5	8	8	8.5
PC gaming (DOOM 3)	9	9	7	9
DVD movie (Pearl Harbor)	9	9	7	9

ViewSonic G90f+

The G90f+ was technically the most potent 19in CRT monitor we looked at, with a high 275MHz video bandwidth and a huge maximum resolution of 2,048 by 1,536 pixels. Interestingly though, we could only get to 1,920 by 1,440 pixels using our MSI GeForce 7800 GTX card and the latest ForceWare 77.72 driver software from Nvidia.

In terms of image quality, we found no problems with this model. It handled extreme greyscales exceptionally well and showed no pixel noise or colour errors on the pixel-tracking test. The good extreme greyscale response set it up nicely for our game and DVD movie playback tests, with excellent results all round.

If we had any complaints, it would be the anchored VGA cable and the bulkiness of the unit. Anchored cables become a problem when they're damaged because the whole monitor has to be returned for servicing, rather than just buying a new cable.

The G90f+ is not the most attractive of monitors out there either, nor is it the smallest. This unit also has a fairly long-neck CRT tube compared with the

Price: \$330 **Contact:** Synnex **Phone:** 1300 100 100 **Web:** www.viewsonic.com.au **Excellent resolution** + **Excellent image quality** - **Bulky unit** and anchored VGA cable



Acer and Mitsubishi monitors, and it's surprisingly heavy. However, long-neck tubes tend to give a better image quality because the electron beams that create the image don't have to be bent through as large an angle to hit the extreme sides of the screen. That makes it easier to keep the beams in focus and produce a better image. This monitor's tube face is set back quite a way inside the front bezel, which gives the impression that the bezel itself was big and ugly.

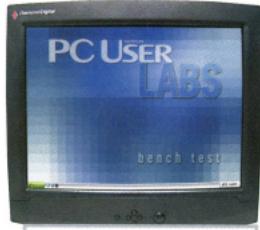
All up though, this is a quite a good monitor, especially for serious gamers who want more than the typical 1,280 by 1,024-pixel resolution.

Mitsubishi DV992A

On paper, the DV992A is a fine monitor, offering up to 1,920 by 1,440-pixel resolution at 60Hz, and at a surprisingly low price. However, our test unit exhibited a noticeable lack of contrast. We noticed that the general scan (or raster) lines of this monitor were clearly visible, even when the unit was supposed to be displaying black. We cannot

confirm it, but it appeared as though the black reference level was set too high, affecting the contrast. This was noticeable in all our tests. Extreme blacks on our greyscale test were just non-existent and no amount of tweaking of the brightness and contrast levels could fix it. The pixel-tracking/phase lock test produced fine results, with no mapping errors or digital noise present.

Gameplay, particularly *DOOM 3*, looked ordinary and our DVD movie test showed up the lack of contrast. We also found the labelling of the onscreen control buttons too hard to read. The styling is quite reasonable though, and this monitor has the shortest neck tube we tested, which means less space taken up on your desk. But all up, there are better models to choose from.



7 Price: \$259 Contact: Mitsubishi Electric Phone: (02) 9684 7777 Web: www.mitsubishi-electric.com.au + High resolution + Low price - Low contrast range

20IN OR LARGER WIDESCREEN LCD MONITORS

Dell 2405FPW

Unfortunately, Dell could not (or would not) submit any monitors for this story. However, we reviewed this monitor in a previous issue and it was just so damn good, it needed to be included in this story. The 2405FPW is easily the best TFT LCD monitor we've seen, period. It basically does everything right: it has

terrific viewing angles all round, which is a great start for a sub-20ms monitor, and it's still fast enough to handle 3D games and movies without any problem. Its high 1,920 by 1,440-pixel resolution is ideal for Windows, gaming and even HDTV. Not to mention that it comes at an awesome price of just ☺

9 Price: \$1,620 Contact: Dell Phone: 1800 812 393 Web: www.dell.com.au + Excellent image quality + Big screen + Awesome value



TOP BUY
PC USER



Stress free.

With DYMO LabelWriter there are no more jams, no more crunched up sheets, no more waste. It plugs into your PC or Mac and sits on your desk printing up to 32 perfect labels a minute. It has its own software and links with other popular software too. Choose from up to 40 label types (address, shipping, CD/DVD, file folders, you name it), print one label or hundreds. Check it out on our website - www.dymo.com.au

DYMO
THE EASIER, THE BETTER

© \$1,620. For a 24in widescreen monitor, that's bloody brilliant. You won't find a 24in LCD TV that looks anywhere near as good as this at anything like this price.

It handles VGA and DVI inputs in addition to component, S-Video and composite video. If ever there's been an LCD monitor ripe for home theatre use, this is definitely it. We've been quite vocal in our dislike for most of the LCD monitors that have come to market, but Dell's 2405FPW is the one unit we think actually hits the mark for image quality and price. And after testing for this roundup, we honestly don't think you'll find a better widescreen monitor.

Philips 200W6

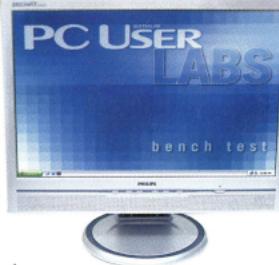
If you're after a widescreen LCD monitor, but the budget just won't stretch to the 24in Dell model, this 200W6 from Philips could be the next best thing. Its \$1,099 price tag makes it great value (and you can get it even cheaper if you shop around), plus its image quality isn't bad either.

It performed well in all of our tests, which is saying something, and it even comes with built-in stereo speakers. Its native resolution of 1,650 by 1,050 pixels makes it ideal for HDTV video playback, and its 16ms response time is a common thread among all the monitors in this category. Both

7.6
Price: \$1,099
Contact: Philips
Phone: 1800 009
300 Web: www.philips.com.au + Reasonable image quality + Nice price - No TV video inputs

of our greyscale tests were good, but not perfect. Yet given what else we saw this month, they were good enough.

Viewing angles in both the vertical and horizontal directions were very good, although we did notice a pink hue come over the screen as soon as we went off-centre horizontally. This appears to be a common issue with screens offering good viewing angles. Gameplay testing was quite good, with only the slightest



hint of ghosting.

For media centre use, this isn't a bad choice, but the lack of composite, S-Video or component video inputs, along with some little niggling issues (including very tiny onscreen menu controls), just take a little of this unit's shine away.

BenQ FP231W

In comparison to Dell's excellent 2405FPW, most of the other monitors in this group failed to live up to the benchmark. At 23in, the FP231W is just fractionally smaller than the 2405FPW, but unfortunately, it couldn't match the Dell for image quality. The big overriding issue with this model is the poor contrast. At 500:1 on paper, it's as good as most 19in models, but in practice, it performed dismally on our extreme greyscale tests, with near-whites and near-blacks just not visible.

There was also a noticeable pink cast on our pixel-tracking/phase lock test and considerable noise that we could not fix with the onscreen controls. Gameplay, especially with *DOOM 3*, was almost a

WIDESCREEN LCD MONITORS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	BenQ FP231W	Dell 2405FPW	NEC MultiSync LCD4010	Philips 200W6	Philips 230W	ViewSonic VP231wb
Price	\$2,599	\$1,620	\$8,000	\$1,099	\$3,499	\$2,799
SPECIFICATIONS						
Native resolution (pixels)	1,920 by 1,200	1,920 by 1,200	1,366 by 768	1,680 by 1,050	1,920 by 1,200	1,920 by 1,200
Response time (ms)	16	16	16	16	16	16
Contrast ratio	500:1	1000:1	800:1	600:1	500:1	500:1
Brightness (cd/m ²)	250	500	500	300	250	250
Horizontal scanning frequency	N/A	N/A	31 to 91kHz	30 to 93kHz	30 to 94kHz	30 to 92kHz
Vertical scanning frequency	N/A	N/A	50 to 85Hz	56 to 85Hz	56 to 85Hz	24 to 85Hz
INPUTS						
VGA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DVI	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
S-Video	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Composite video	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
FEATURES						
Height adjuster	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Swivel base	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Portrait mode	No	No	No	No	No	No
Integrated AC power	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Detachable VGA cable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Speakers (power rating)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Two 2W	Two 3W	N/A
Autosync on signal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
One-touch auto setup	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
TEST RESULTS (out of 10)						
Extreme greyscale (EGS)	6	N/A	7	8	4	6
Pixel mapping	6	N/A	7	9	7	7
Horizontal viewing angle	9	9	9	8	8	9
Below perpendicular viewing angle	9	9	9	9	9	9
Windows general use	7	9	8	8	7	7.5
PC gaming (<i>DOOM 3</i>)	6	9	7	8	5.5	6
DVD movie (<i>Pearl Harbor</i>)	6	9	7	8	5.5	6



6
Price: \$2,599
Contact: BenQ
Phone: (02) 9352 8800 Web: www.benq.com.au + Excellent height adjuster - Poor contrast - Too expensive

waste of time, as most of the dark areas simply melded into the grey background. The same happened on DVD movie playback.

On the upside, the height adjustment and swivel base of this unit is just excellent and

matches the Dell nicely. The viewing angles are also fantastic, but with such low contrast, we'd have to question whether it's worth the effort. At \$2,599, the price is nowhere near as good as the Dell, but still better than some.

NEC MultiSync LCD4010

The prize for the largest LCD screen we tested goes to NEC's LCD4010, with its massive 40in viewable area. It's a huge display and the weirdest thing to use when you're running a Windows desktop, it's so big. However, the glaring omission in our book is

resolution. The Dell 2405FPW can hit an excellent 1,920 by 1,440 pixels, but this 40in screen has a maximum resolution of only 1,366 by 768 pixels, which is disappointing.

However, NEC calls this unit one of its 'public display'

ViewSonic VP231wb

The VP231wb suffered from many of the same problems as Philips's 230W and it wouldn't surprise us if both use the same LCD panel. The VP231wb has the same 1,920 by 1,200-pixel resolution, 16ms response time and exhibited many of the same image problems.

First up, near-blacks on our extreme greyscale test were non-existent, and this showed up on our DVD movie and 3D gaming tests. It also didn't sync

up the video correctly when we changed the resolution on *DOOM 3*. It's important to be able to vary the game resolution to pick up gaming speed with older graphics cards. The VP231wb left a black edge on the right side of the screen when we changed the gaming resolution on *DOOM 3*, and it was the only monitor to do so.

On the positive side, viewing angles here were excellent in all directions, but the lack of

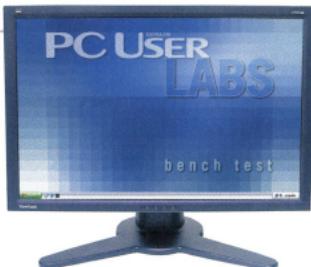
6 Price: \$8,000 Contact: NEC Phone: 13 16 32 Web: www.nec.com.au + Bloody big screen - Resolution too low - What was that price again?



monitors, which suggests it's meant to be used at a significant distance as a video monitor, rather than as a Windows monitor. That comes through in the dot pitch, which is 0.83mm diagonal or roughly three times the size of the pixels in most 19in TFT LCD models. The unit has a reasonable 16ms

response time, which showed up as a small amount of smearing on 3D games, yet it still managed to produce excellent viewing angles all round. As big as it is, it doesn't come close to matching the Dell for quality and certainly not for price.

6 Price: \$2,799 Contact: Synex Phone: 1300 100 100 Web: www.viewsonic.com.au + Good viewing angles - Poor contrast - Too expensive



contrast didn't bring games or movies to life. The lack of any composite, component or S-Video inputs doesn't help either.

The bottom line is that with

Dell's 2405FPW priced at \$1,620, the ViewSonic VP231wb just can't compete.

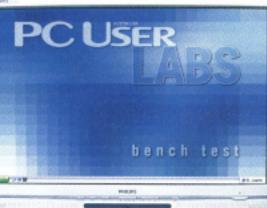
Philips 230W

The big brother to the 200W6 is this 23in 230W. With its extra size comes extra resolution, pushing the native pixel count to 1,920 by 1,200. Unfortunately, one of the missing features here was contrast. The extreme greyscale test showed this up clearly, with virtually no sign of either near-whites or near-blacks. That showed up in our 3D gaming and DVD movie playback tests.

While the screen's response time of 16ms is enough to give virtually no ghosting, the lack of contrast on our test unit was alarming. *DOOM 3* is a dark game at the best of times, but almost all the detail of the game through our GeForce 7800 GTX card all but disappeared. The same thing on DVD — the crushed contrast resulted in blacks that were grey and skin tones that became white.

The 230W is loaded with features such as a multiformat

flash memory card reader and USB hub built into the front of the monitor. However, when the image quality isn't great, the worth of such features is questionable at best. The real killer here is the price. At \$3,499, you could buy two Dell 2405FPW monitors. Now that would be pretty darn interesting... ☺



6 Price: \$3,499 Contact: Philips Phone: 1800 009 300 Web: www.philips.com.au + No ghosting on games - No contrast on games - Way too expensive



The Broadband Phone Company
www.engin.com.au Hotline: 1300 305 000

Make MASSIVE Savings On Your Phone Bills!

30 day trial period, No Lock-in contract, Free Delivery, 1 month FREE service fee.

Nvidia unleashes GeForce 7800 GTX

Forget the GeForce 6800 Ultra and the Radeon X850 XT — there's a new high-performance video card in town. Darren Yates reports.

Graphics card vendor Nvidia pushed 3D gaming to new heights this month with the release of the GeForce 7800 PCI Express graphics card. Based on Nvidia's latest G70 graphics processor unit (GPU), the 7800 GTX delivers an astonishing performance gain over the previous generation kings, the GeForce 6800 Ultra and Radeon X850 XT.

Using Ubisoft's *Splinter Cell Chaos Theory* (SCCT) game in addition to our regular id Software hit, *DOOM 3*, and our new world-exclusive UserBench Splinter Cell CT and UserBench DOOM 3 benchmark engines (see 'Introducing the new UserBench tests' on page 62), we tested the 7800 GTX and found the lofty claims being made of this card are, surprisingly, mostly true. We also took this opportunity to test out some older cards to see how they compare.

GeForce 7800 GTX details

The 7800 GTX is the street name for Nvidia's new high-end card based on the G70 core. It effectively kicks off the company's GeForce 7000 series of cards.

The core processor in this new GPU (GPU) runs at a clock speed of 430MHz, while its 256MB of onboard memory cranks along at 1.2GHz. But the biggest gains from this new GPU are in the processing engine; vertex engines (processing coordinates of intersecting points of lines and shapes) go up from six in the GeForce 6800

Ultra (NV40) to eight. Pixel pipelines that process colour, depth and shade for individual pixels of each frame increase from 16 to 24. In layman's terms, these are significant increases that help to give the 7800 GTX its phenomenal performance scores, particularly at higher resolutions, such as 1,600 by 1,200 pixels and up.

The other great piece of news is that Nvidia has managed to shoehorn the 7800 GTX back into a single-slot design. The 6800 Ultra was, with few exceptions, an almost exclusively double-slot design card, which means it took up a considerable amount of

Look similar? All three of the GeForce 7800 GTX cards we tested were virtually identical.

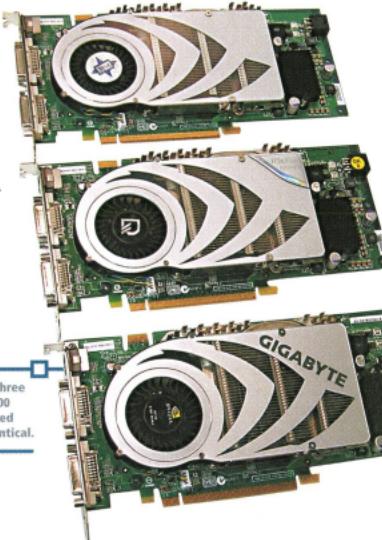
precious case space.

The 7800 is around 10mm longer in length than the standard 6800 Ultra, and while the single-slot width gives it a chance in most micro PC cases, the length is causing problems with some motherboards. For

example, MSI's K8N-SLI Platinum is reported to have a capacitor on the board that blocks the card's installation.

What we found

We received four 7800 GTX cards for testing this month. ☺



NVIDIA GEFORCE 7800 GTX CARDS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Graphics card model	Gigabyte GV-NX78X256V-B	Leadtek WinFast PX7800 GTX TDH MyVIVO	MSI NX7800GTX-VT2D256E
Price	\$955	\$898	\$899
Games	Joint Operations: Typhoon Rising, Xpand Rally	Splinter Cell Chaos Theory, Prince of Persia Warrior Within	The Chronicles of Riddick: Escape from Butcher Bay
Multimedia software	CyberLink PowerDirector 3 ME	Ulead VideoStudio 8 SE DVD, Ulead DVD Movie Factory 3 SE, Ulead Cool 3D	None
Hardware	VIVO-to-component/S-Video breakout box, DVI-A-to-VGA converter	VIVO-to-component/S-Video converter cable, two DVI-A-to-VGA converters	S-Video extension cable, VIVO-to-component/S-Video converter cable
TEST RESULTS			
<i>UserBench Splinter Cell CT (1.0.3)*</i>			
640 by 480	111.43	126.26	126.27
800 by 600	126.7	126.92	126.97
1,024 by 768	118.4	118.43	118.39
1,280 by 1,024	92.91	92.94	92.91
1,600 by 1,200	67.68	67.7	67.68
<i>UserBench DOOM 3 (1.0.0)*</i>			
640 by 480	98	97.5	97.9
800 by 600	98.2	98.2	98.2
1,024 by 768	98.3	98.3	98.3
1,280 by 1,024	96.5	96.5	96.5
1,600 by 1,200	87.9	88	87.9

* All benchmark results are in average frames per second (fps). In all cases higher scores are better.
Please note: all prices quoted were the cheapest available on www.staticice.com.au as at July 7, 2005.

SAVE NOW! BUY DIRECT!

Natcomp is a leading importer of consumer electronic products in Australia since 1987 with many years of dedicated customer relations and service. We supply major retailers Australia wide. Now you too can buy direct and save!

Portable DVD players



\$199

- Ultra slim
- Plays DVD/CD/CD-R/CD-RW etc.
- AC/DC compatible

17" LCD / TFT monitors



\$319

- 7" Widescreen
- 16:9 ratio
- Remote control
- Built-in stereo speakers
- Car cigarette lighter charger
- Progressive scan function
- Fast 8ms response time
- Multimedia speakers
- 1280 x 800 resolution
- Pixel pitch 0.25mm
- Resolution 1280 x 1024

NEC Versa E2000 M1.5Ghz



\$1499

- Windows XP Home
- Microsoft Word • International warranty
- Celena M370 (1.5Ghz x 256MB RAM x 80GB 40 GB score HDD DVDR/DVD burner
- Lan/Modem wireless 802.11b/g

32" (82cm) Widescreen LCD TV



\$2099

- High resolution
- Contrast 1000:1
- Picture in Picture
- Samsung panel
- Stereo Speakers

- PC Input
- High brightness
- Teletext
- ... and more!

Also available in 20.1" and 26" LCD TV

MP3 PLAYERS



\$299

Shiro AX 256MB MP3 Player

- 256MB MP3/WMA/WAV player
- digital FM tuner and recording
- One touch voice recording,
- Supports 16 languages
- 7 EQ band
- A-B repeat functions
- Scrolling lyrics feature
- USB 2.0 full speed
- USB flash drive

\$95



NEW

20GB Hard Drive
Hold up to 5000 songs

- FM radio
- USB 2.0
- Voice recording
- Stylish unit
- Carry case
- Supports MP3, OGG, WAV format

Flash memory cards

Microdia SD Cards

- 256MB - 72MHz Plus 10.8MB/Sec
- 512MB - 72MHz Plus 10.8MB/Sec
- 1.0GB - 72XtraPlus 10.8MB/Sec
- 1.5GB - 72XtraPlus 10.8MB/Sec
- 2.0GB - 72XtraPlus 10.8MB/Sec
- 3.0GB - 72XtraPlus 10.8MB/Sec

Microdia Compact Flash Cards

- 356MB - 42Xtra 6.3MB/Sec
- 512MB - 42Xtra 6.3MB/Sec
- 1.0GB - 42Xtra 6.3MB/Sec
- 2.0GB - 82XtraPlus 12.3MB/Sec
- 4.0GB - 82XtraPlus 12.3MB/Sec
- 8.0GB - 150MHz Plus 22.5MB/Sec

Microdia XD Picture Cards

- 128MB
- 256MB
- 512MB

DVD Player 5.1



\$69

- Multi format playback
- Built in Dolby AC-3 decoder
- Progressive scan
- On screen display
- Component video-out
- Slim line

Shiro digital camera



\$199

DX331 13.3MP

- 3.3 Mega pixels
- 4 x Digital zoom
- 16MB

Shiro digital camera



\$299

SX501 5.36MP

- 16MB
- SD/MMC memory card expansion slot
- Unlimited duration for movie recording
- Digital voice recorder, voice memo and Flash Drive capability
- 3 selectable games
- Connect to TV for alternative viewing of images
- 1.5" LCD TFT screen
- 5.36 Mega pixels
- CCD Image sensor
- 3 x Optical, 5 x Digital zoom
- Re-chargeable Li-ion battery
- USB flash capability to store and retrieve data and images
- 2" LCD TFT screen
- Weight 140g
- Supports voice recording

CALL NOW! 02 9181 4402

Available while stocks last. Prices may change without notice. Standard retail prices. Prices are GST inclusive. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Product images are an approximate guide only. All other normal trading conditions apply. Errors and omissions excluded. Prices and product specifications are correct at time of publishing. Credit cards are welcome. Extra charges will apply for postage and handling based on destination. All trademarks, brand names and product names are the property of their respective owners. © Copyright 2005.

YOUR CHOICE ✓ YOUR VALUE

NATCOMP

www.natcomp.com.au

EST. 1987

175 VICTORIA STREET DRUMMOYNE NSW 2047

>We've heard from vendors that retail stock levels are good, so you should have no trouble picking one up. However, if you're in the market for one of these cards, one thing is worth noting: every test card we received was basically identical. While we can't confirm it, it looks as though all of the cards are either coming out of the same factory, or all the vendors are sticking *very closely* to Nvidia's reference design.

Leadtek was the one company to offer anything different, and provided a BIOS update that reportedly cranks up the clock speed from 430MHz to 450MHz and keeps your warranty intact. However, we were unable to get the BIOS to install correctly and were still waiting for a response from Leadtek at the time of printing. Stay tuned for more on this one.

GeForce 7800 GTX performance

The most impressive feature of the 7800 GTX is its performance gain over previous-generation cards. This increases the higher the resolution you choose; in SCCT at 1,600 by 1,200-pixel resolution, it left the 6800 Ultra behind by as much as 41% and the X850 XT by 27%. At a more typical 1,024 by 768 pixels, the 7800 GTX outpaced the X850 XT by 17% and the 6800 Ultra by 27%.

However, one other thing became clear to us from our UserBench Splinter Cell CT testing: switching on all of the advanced graphics effects available from Shader Model 3.0 (SM3.0) still pulls down the 7800 GTX's performance levels. This is particularly noticeable when you switch on High Dynamic Range (HDR) rendering. But even so, this is one heck of a graphics card.

Radeon X850 XT comparison

The GeForce 7800 GTX shows the X850 XT (ATI's current top-of-the-line card) a clean pair of heels, although the gap varies considerably depending on the game you choose. For example, In *DOOM 3*, the 7800 GTX had

a handsome 51.8% lead over the X850 XT at 1,600 by 1,200-pixel resolution. But in SCCT, the gap narrows to a still-healthy 26.9%.

(For point of reference, the X850 XT actually outperformed the GeForce 6800 Ultra on SCCT but was miles behind on *DOOM 3*. As we said, choosing your card can depend as much on your favourite game as it does your wallet.)

SLI speed and older cards

Previous testing had shown us that Nvidia's Scalable Link Interface (SLI) made little difference to the overall performance with *DOOM 3*, but the results from both of our new benchmark engines show SLI can provide benefit at higher resolutions.

While our UserBench

DOOM 3 results are consistent with previous testing, showing slower performance than a single card at lower resolutions, they also show *DOOM 3* gets a wriggle on at higher resolutions.

UserBench Splinter Cell CT gave similar results, particularly with the 7800 GTX cards. These showed lower scores at lower resolutions compared to a single 7800 card, but gained even more significant increases the higher in resolution you go.

Two 7800 GTX cards in SLI basically show no signs of slowing down on *DOOM 3* and only marginal drops in frame rate on SCCT. These results clearly shift the bottleneck blame back into CPU territory, which in our case, was an already fast AMD Athlon 64 4000+ processor.

More remarkable was the

performance gains using two GeForce 6600 GT cards in SLI mode. In *DOOM 3*, it wasn't until we hit 1,280 by 1,024-pixel resolution that SLI mode showed any benefit, but with a 33% performance gain, the advantage was immediately apparent. In practice, what's happening is that the two SLI cards are holding their performance line while the single 6600 GT card begins to groan under the workload.

Using two 6600 GTs in SLI mode, the performance gain in SCCT was nearly 100% by the time we hit 1,600 by 1,200-pixel resolution. In fact, the 6600 GT SLI performance levels held so well that they outperformed both the GeForce 6800 Ultra and Radeon X850 XT on both games at that high 1,600 by 1,200-pixel resolution. Given the sub-

GRAPHICS CARDS: HOW THEY COMPARE

USERBENCH SPLINTER CELL CT 1.0.3		Test resolution/results				
Shader Model 3.0 (no extras)* tests		640 by 480	800 by 600	1,024 by 768	1,280 by 1,024	1,600 by 1,200
Nvidia GeForce 7800 GTX SLI	112.59	120.43	119.92	119.88	112.33	
Nvidia GeForce 7800 GTX	124.77	125.43	117.53	92.84	67.69	
Nvidia GeForce 6600 GT SLI	110.07	115.95	104.23	77.79	56.52	
ATI Radeon X850 XT	113.67	111.97	99.99	72.07	53.31	
Nvidia GeForce 6800 Ultra	125.47	118.19	92.29	65.83	48.03	
Nvidia GeForce 6600 GT	103.39	81.48	58.45	41.33	29.57	
ATI Radeon X700 Pro	92.05	70.88	49.58	32.81	23.23	
Nvidia GeForce 6600	77.37	60.11	42.72	30.10	21.46	
ATI Radeon X700	82.90	63.32	44.10	29.22	20.66	
ATI Radeon X600 XT	59.99	44.57	30.88	20.48	14.43	
Shader Model 3.0 (with extras)* tests						
Nvidia GeForce 7800 GTX SLI	115.80	115.72	115.53	103.94	82.63	
Nvidia GeForce 7800 GTX	119.54	111.53	87.38	60.00	43.83	
Nvidia GeForce 6600GT SLI	108.00	91.39	66.62	45.70	31.20	
USERBENCH DOOM 3 1.0.0						
Nvidia GeForce 7800 GTX SLI	93.6	94	94.1	94.1	93.6	
Nvidia GeForce 7800 GT	96.6	97.2	97.3	97.8	87.6	
Nvidia GeForce 6600 GT SLI	88.4	88.7	88.8	86	76.5	
Nvidia GeForce 6800 Ultra	97.1	97.6	97.2	89.5	75.9	
ATI Radeon X850 XT	98.9	98	94.1	75.8	57.7	
Nvidia GeForce 6600 GT	92.2	92.4	86.2	66.9	50.2	
Nvidia GeForce 6600	92	88.3	72.6	50.5	36.9	
ATI Radeon X700 Pro	93.1	76.4	54.8	36	24.8	
ATI Radeon X700	82.5	67.3	48	31.5	21.7	
ATI Radeon X600 XT	66.5	48.3	32	20.7	13.8	

*Shader Model 3.0 extras include parallax mapping, High Dynamic Range (HDR) rendering, high-quality soft shadows and tone mapping. Please note: *DOOM 3* was tested with basic settings (trilinear image filtering with no anisotropy or antialiasing). All test results listed in frames per second (fps). In all cases, a higher result is better.

Australia's No. 1 Notebook & Media Centre PC⁺

Award Winning Value & Top Performance

DreamBook Power 900

RRP from
\$3399

Face
Recognition
VoIP



- Intel Pentium 4 with HT Technology
- Up to 4GB 533MHz DDR2 RAM
- ATI Radeon X800 256MB PCIe Graphics
- 17" Wide SXGA+ 1680x1050 TFT Screen
- Dual Hard Drive & Optical Drive Bays
- 5.1 S/PDIF Sound, 4 Speakers, 1 Sub-woofer
- 7-in-1 Card Reader, Firewire, Serial-ATA
- Windows XP Home/Professional/MCE



DreamBook Power 470K

RRP from
\$2499



- Intel Athlon 64 Mobile 64-Bit Processor
- Up to 2GB 400MHz DDR RAM
- ATI Radeon 9700 128MB Graphics
- Choice of 17" Wide XGA 1440x900 OR WSXGA+ 1680x1050 TFT Screen
- 5.1 S/PDIF Sound, 4 Speakers, 1 Sub-woofer
- 4-in-1 Card Reader, Firewire
- Windows XP Home/Professional 64/MCE

DreamBook SOHO 40EF/EV

RRP from
\$1199*



Versatile
desktop replacement
for home/office



DreamBook SOHO 8399/55

RRP from
\$1299*



- AMD Athlon 64 Mobile 64-Bit Processor
- Up to 1GB 400MHz DDR RAM
- Choice of Up to 64MB Graphics with 15" XGA 1024x768 TFT Screen OR ATI Radeon 9700 128MB Graphics with 15" SXGA+ 1400x1050 TFT Screen
- 3-in-1 Card Reader & Firewire (ATI Model)
- Windows XP Home/Professional, Linspire

DreamBook Value 300/350

RRP from
\$899*

Ideal for study
and surfing the internet



DreamBook Slim 805

RRP from
\$1199*



15.4" Wide Screen

- Intel Celeron-M 1.8GHz Processor (300)
- Intel Pentium-M Processor (350)
- Up to 1GB DDR RAM
- Up to 64MB Intel Graphics
- 14.1" XGA 1024x768 TFT Screen
- 2 Speakers, 1 Microphone
- Ultra-ATA Hard Drive, Firewire (300)
- Windows XP Home/Professional, Linspire

DreamBook Slim 805X

RRP from
\$1699



Ultimate road warrior
featuring new Intel
Sonoma chipset



15.4" Wide Screen

DreamBook Tablet 210V

RRP from
\$1599*



Dream PC

RRP from
\$899*

Great portable PC
and space saver



DreamVision Media Centre & Entertainment PCs

RRP from
\$2999



Available with 27"30" or 32"
High Definition LCD TV



- Intel Celeron 2.6GHz / Pentium 4 2.4GHz
- Up to 1GB DDR RAM
- Intel Extreme Graphics
- Choice of 24x CD-Rom
- 8x DVD/24x CD-RW OR 8x DVD+/-RW DL
- Ultra-ATA Hard Drive, Firewire
- Size 15cm (W) x 25cm (H) x 4cm (D), 2.5Kgs
- Windows XP Home/Professional, Linspire

- Intel Pentium 4 with HT Technology
- Intel 915G Express Chipset, 800MHz FSB
- Up to 2GB 400MHz DDR RAM
- Choice of Intel Graphics Accelerator 900 OR ATI Radeon X300SE 128MB PCIe Graphics
- 16x DVD+/-RW DL, Serial-ATA Hard Drive
- 7.1 Channel HD Audio, in-built Speakers
- 802.11b/g Wireless, Card Reader, Remote

- Entertainment Server
- 7.1 Channel Digital Audio
- HDTV/DVD Recorder
- SD/HDMI Digital TV
- DVD Player
- MP3/CD Player
- Gaming Console
- Content Sharing
- Media Broadcasting
- Wireless Keyboard/Mouse

DreamVision LCD PC

RRP from
\$1699

Perfect for the office



- Intel Pentium 4 with HT Technology
- Up to 1GB 400MHz DDR RAM
- Up to 64MB Shared Graphics
- 17" XGA 1024x768 TFT Screen
- Choice of 24x CD-Rom
- 8x DVD/24x CD-RW OR 8x DVD+/-RW DL
- Ultra-ATA Hard Drive, Firewire
- Windows XP Home/Professional

All prices include GST, exc. freight, all images are for illustrative purposes only. Errors and omissions accepted. *Basic RRP price includes Linspire only. Windows XP Home and Professional are optional.

• ISO 9001 Quality Endorsed Company QEC11489 • Commonwealth Government Endorsed Supplier 263 • State, Local, Government, Education Contract Supplier

Ph: (02) 9690 2888 **Fax: (02) 9690 0333**

Unit 2,37 O'Riordan Street,
Alexandra NSW 2015 Australia

www.PioneerComputers.com.au sales@pioneercomputers.com.au

Proudly Built to Order in Australia
Free 1 Year On-site Warranty,
2 & 3 Year Optional.

Intel, Pentium, Celeron, Core, and the Intel logo are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation.

*APC Survey November 2003

• \$600 price tag for two of these excellent cards, they can prove a better investment than a GeForce 6800 Ultra or Radeon X850 XT — provided you already have an SLI motherboard.

But if you like your gaming with all the Shader Model 3.0 (SM3.0) eye candy extras, such as tone mapping and HDR rendering switched on, then two 7800 GTX cards in SLI mode is the way to go. Although turning on these features still belts the daylights out of these cards, 7800 GTX SLI provides more than two-and-a-half times the frame rate horsepower of two 6600 GTs at 1,600 by 1,200-pixel resolution — and that's huge.

• Recommendation

While it's impossible not to be impressed by the new 7800 GTX's sheer horsepower, it's not going to be the best tool in the shed for many users.

For budget-minded semi-serious gaming, the GeForce 6600 GT is still a winner. Its performance per dollar is still

excellent and ideal for gaming up to 1,024 by 768-pixel resolution and even 1,280 by 1,024 at a stretch. For higher-resolution gaming, two GeForce 6600 GTs in SLI (if your PC

supports SLI), is a good-value proposition, giving good speed up to 1,600 by 1,200 pixels, provided you leave off the SM3.0 eye candy. But if you can't bear the thought of gaming with

anything less than 1,280 by 1,024 pixels and all the extras switched on, two GeForce 7800 GTX cards in SLI is the best (and most expensive) option available at the moment. ☺

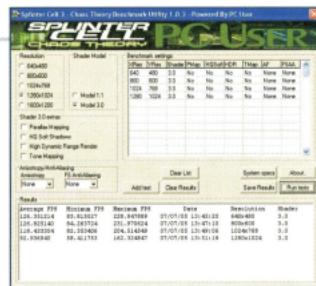
INTRODUCING OUR NEW USERBENCH TESTS

We've taken the opportunity with the arrival of the new GeForce 7800 GTX to upgrade our 3D benchmarking, adding new benchmarks and further improving how we operate those tests.

Ubisoft's latest instalment of the *Splitter Cell* franchise, *Splitter Cell Chaos Theory*, is based on a souped-up *Unreal Tournament 2004* graphics engine, but also provides an unrivalled array of Shader Model 3.0 control settings, along with an excellent benchmark engine.

In combination with our other regular test game, id Software's *DOOM 3*, this means we're testing both the de facto 3D gaming standards: DirectX 9 and OpenGL.

We've enhanced our testing further with the introduction of our two new world-first benchmarking engines developed by PC User, known as UserBench Splitter Cell CT and UserBench DOOM 3. They enable us to run up to 50 individual tests at a time, making adjustments to everything from resolution (640 by 480 through to 1,600 by 1,200 pixels), other features including Shader Models (1.0 or 3.0, where allowable) and various Shader Model 3.0 extras (parallax mapping, HDR, high-quality soft shadows and tone mapping), capturing all-important frame rate speeds in these different modes. Real-world benchmarks are the key to accurate profiling and performance testing of any PC component, and our new world-first benchmarking tools enable us to test more cards more thoroughly than ever before, and in a fraction of the time required to do it by hand.



PC User's new UserBench tests help us get to the bottom of graphics card performance.

MOTHERBOARD REVIEW

ASUS P5ND2-SLI Deluxe

Despite a fairly hefty price tag, the new P5ND2-SLI Deluxe from ASUS is a fine board loaded with features, not the least of which is its support for dual-core Pentium D processors right out of the box. We had planned to test another big-name board this month, but its inability to handle the new Pentium D chip left us cold.

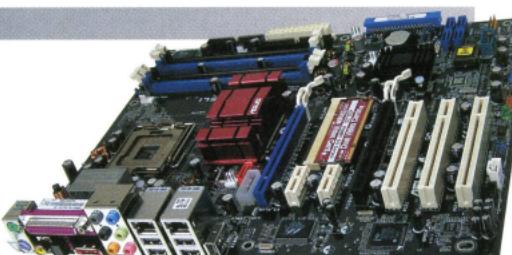
The P5ND2-SLI features Nvidia's nForce4 SLI chipset for Intel chips and has loads of other extras, including dual Gigabit Ethernet, FireWire and dual RAID options. In fact, the RAID options on this board are so extensive that you can have up to eight drives all running in RAID configuration.

The P5ND2-SLI supports 1,066MHz frontside bus speeds and DDR2 memory up to 800MHz, so it's a board that will last you well into the future. As the name suggests, it also

includes Nvidia's Scalable Link Interface (SLI) technology, so you'll be able to maximise your 3D gaming speed (even though it will likely minimise your bank account) with dual graphics cards.

One other feature worth noting is the fanless heatsink on the board's Northbridge chipset. This heatsink will get quite hot in normal use, so you'll want to make sure your case has sufficient airflow to keep it cool.

Although we tested the board with the new 2.8GHz Pentium D 820 dual-core processor, its performance was a little disappointing, failing to hit the 50 mark on our multimedia content creation benchmark. The GeForce 7800 GTX graphics card we used to test the board barely shifted its result, regardless of the resolution setting, nestling in on 82fps on DOOM 3.



All up, this is a highly capable board, but given our results with the 2.8GHz Pentium D processor, you'll want something faster if you're going to get your money's worth.

— Darren Yates

7.5 **Price:** \$379 **Contact:** Achieva **Phone:** (02) 9742 3288 **Web:** www.asus.com.au **+ Extensive RAID options** **+ 1,066MHz FSB/DDR2-800 memory support** — Pricely

ASUS P5ND2-SLI DELUXE TEST RESULTS

VeriTest Business Winstone 2002	34.6
VeriTest Multimedia Content Creation Winstone 2003	49.8
VeriTest Business Disk WinMark 99 (KB/s)	8460
DOOM 3 timedemo demo1 (640 by 480) average fps	82.2
DOOM 3 timedemo demo1 (1280 by 1024) average fps	82.2

with **super fast 1.5Mb** **BROADBAND**

save on phone & internet bills



**500 MIN P/M
CALL ALLOWANCE***
to Australian capital cities



INSTALLATION^
on 18 month contract



**UNLIMITED~
DOWNLOADS**
speed throttled to 64k after 8GB

**bundle
& save!**

\$ 49.99[#]
MONTHLY INC GST



Outside monthly call
allowance, following
amazing rates apply:

**9.9¢
flat rate**

to Aus Capital Cities[†]

FREE

TPG VoIP to TPG VoIP

28¢/min

to Aus Mobile Phones

SOME GREAT INTERNATIONAL RATES

United Kingdom	1¢ /min
United States	1.99¢ /min
New Zealand	5.2¢ /min
Hong Kong	2.77¢ /min
China	3.46¢ /min
Italy	4.19¢ /min
Greece	5.2¢ /min

For more Great International
Rates, please visit our website:
www.tpg.com.au/voip

NO FLAGFALL | NO CONNECTION CHARGE

This TPG Broadband and VoIP Bundle Plan is available in metropolitan areas nationwide, excl. TAS. For more information on Regional plans, please contact TPG. *500 minute monthly call allowance only applies to the initial 18 month contract, for calls to the following Australian capital cities: Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. Calls to mobile phones are not included. TPG will initially debit Customer's Credit Card \$20 for prepaid call credit to cover calls outside monthly call allowance. Calls using call allowance are charged as a 10 minute block up to the end of the tenth minute and thereafter at 1 minute increments. ^\$0 installation offer is only valid for new TPG customers who sign up for 18 months to an eligible plan. *Speed throttled to 64k after 8GB. #Monthly payment by Credit Card only. Total minimum cost over 18 months is \$1119.77. Includes modem cost \$199.95 and \$20 non-refundable pre paid call credit.

TPG VoIP Service: †Excludes Hobart & Darwin. Service does not support calls to 000 and other special services. *Offer. See www.tpg.com.au/voip/ for details. All information correct as at 27th June 2005. TPG reserves the right to amend any offers without notice.

TRG
INTERNET
1300 360 855
WWW.TPG.COM.AU



PSP vs Nintendo DS

Julian Schoffel
introduces the latest
portable games
consoles from
Nintendo and Sony.

Sony PSP

The Sony PSP (PlayStation Portable) is sleek, black and oozes an indefinable cool factor that the Nintendo DS seems to lack. The PSP only has one screen, but it's clearer and wider than the Nintendo DS's dual display. The PSP also has built-in Wi-Fi (802.11b), a variety of I/O connectors (such as a USB 2.0 port, Memory Stick Duo port and infra-red port) and the ability to play movies, music and display pictures. In terms of sheer grunt, the PSP is far superior to the DS, offering near PS2-quality visuals.

The first thing you notice about the PSP is its 4.3in TFT display. It has a resolution of 480 by 272 pixels and the ability to display 16.77 million colours. Load a game and the inky blackness suddenly explodes into a dazzling array of colours and crystal clear imagery. It's a weird, almost mesmerising effect! Unlike the Nintendo DS, the PSP includes adjustable brightness settings to conserve battery power.

The PSP's small speakers can generate some decent-quality audio, but the unit really shines when used with a set of earphones. Unlike the Nintendo DS, the PSP comes standard with a set of earphones that include inline remote controls. Unfortunately, their white colour scheme clashes dreadfully with the PSP's jet black aesthetics.

The PSP uses Sony's

9
Price: \$399.95 Contact:
Sony Computer
Entertainment Phone:
1300 365 911 Web: <http://au.playstation.com> + Gorgeous display
+ Plays movies, music and displays pictures – Questionable battery life

In terms of sheer grunt, the PSP is superior to the Nintendo DS.

proprietary UMD (Universal Media Disc) format. These little suckers can store up to 1.8GB of data, so it's not really surprising that PSP games look so damned impressive. Apart from games, owners will also be able to buy movies in UMD format. Of course, disc-based media has its drawbacks and we found that Nintendo DS cartridges loaded a lot faster than PSP games.

While it may not have the cool touchscreen of the Nintendo DS, the PSP still manages to cram an ample number of controls onto the unit. The most notable of these is the nifty little analog joystick to the left of the screen. Truth be told, it's not really a joystick, but more of a sliding button that works a treat in games. Aside from the mini joystick, the PSP has four face buttons, a D-pad, left and right shoulder buttons, Home/Start>Select/Power buttons, volume controls and two media control buttons.

The PSP's startling array of I/O connectors enables owners to hook up USB 2.0 and infrared devices, and you can even connect the console to a PC. While the unit comes standard with a 32MB Memory Stick Duo, you'll probably need a 256MB or 1GB card if you want to fully exploit the PSP's multimedia capabilities. Speaking of multimedia, you can access your music, pictures or video using Sony's intuitive Cross Media Bar interface. While you can play MP3 music files on the



PSP without converting them to Sony's proprietary ATRAC format, video files are a different story. Thankfully, there are a number of freeware programs available that will do the job nicely, such as PSP Video 9 and PSP Video Express.

At the moment, the PSP's Wi-Fi capabilities only encompass games, with up to 16 players able to play head to head in supported titles. However, rumours have been circulating online that Web browsing, file downloads and Voice over IP may all be possible at a future date via official Sony updates.

Like the Nintendo DS, the PSP uses a Lithium Ion rechargeable battery. The console's power usage has already become a matter of wide debate on the Web, with many owners complaining about limited playing time between recharges. The general consensus is that you can

The PSP is
capable of
producing near
PS2-quality
visuals!

expect to get around 3 hours of juice playing Wi-Fi multiplayer, about 6 hours with straight single player, and over 10 hours if you're just listening to music. Decreasing the screen brightness can also extend the PSP's battery life.

Although the PSP plays movies, music and displays pictures, it doesn't quite perform these tasks as well as other purpose-built devices. While the PSP does excel at playing games, \$400 is a lot to pay for a portable games device. Another question mark hangs over the PSP's battery life. Will owners be happy recharging the device at relatively short intervals, especially after Wi-Fi multiplayer sessions?

Our verdict remains the same though: if you're after a jack-of-all-trades portable entertainment device with oodles of street cred, then the Sony PSP is a no-brainer.





Nintendo DS

The Nintendo DS is stout, silver and sports a unique folding design, courtesy of its two screens, the lower of which doubles as a touchscreen controller. It also boasts built-in Wi-Fi capabilities (802.11-based) and embedded software known as PictoChat, which, as the name suggests, allows up to 16 DS owners to swap text messages and drawings with each other — provided they are within the specified range (10 to 20 metres). But unlike Sony's PSP, the Nintendo DS can't play music or movie files.

The Nintendo DS's defining feature is undoubtedly its dual-screen design. Both screens are 3in in size, with a resolution of 256 by 192 pixels and capable of displaying 260,000 colours. We found display clarity to be at its best when the top screen is flipped back as far as it can go. We tested the DS with a range of games including Metroid Prime Hunters and Atari's Retro collection. While the in-game graphics were crisp and colourful, the Nintendo DS can't match the visual quality of the PSP's larger, 16.77 million-colour screen.

The Nintendo DS's second most distinguishing feature is its funky lower touchscreen. This control system works a treat, providing an extremely fun and intuitive way to control many games. In fact, when using the thumb button on the wrist strap, which comes standard with the DS, we found the touchscreen provides an almost mouse-like level of control, especially in 3D games. The embedded PictoChat software is also quite amusing and extremely simple to use thanks to the stylus, which slots into the back of the DS. Aside from the touchscreen, the DS has four face buttons, a D-pad, left and right shoulder buttons, Start/Select/Power buttons, and a volume control.

In terms of sound, the DS also fared pretty well, and its tiny twin speakers even managed to generate a convincing virtual 3D effect.

8.5
Price: \$199.95
Contact: Nintendo
Phone: (03) 9730 9822
Web: www.nintendo.com.au
+ Touchscreen control
+ Compatible with GBA games
- Can't play music or movies

The unit has a built-in microphone for voice recognition, but unlike the Sony PSP, the DS doesn't come with headphones and they must be purchased separately.

The Nintendo DS is a breeze to use and most players will find the unit's curvaceous, albeit slightly chunky, shape very comfortable. The DS also feels slightly more solid than the PSP, although you certainly wouldn't want to drop either unit. Aside from 128MB DS Game Cards, the unit also has a slot for Game Boy Advance (GBA) cartridges, providing access to a massive back-catalogue of games.

Of course, a good power source is critical to the success of any portable games console and the Nintendo DS is kitted out with a high-quality, rechargeable Lithium Ion battery. Owners can expect to get anywhere from 6 to 10 hours of playing time before the juice runs out. On a negative note, the batteries take around 4



The Nintendo DS is a fun, focused portable games machine.

Metroid Prime Hunters is a breeze to control using the DS's touchscreen.

hours to recharge compared with 2.5 hours for the PSP.

Nintendo has dominated the portable console market for many years now and its expertise shines through with the DS. If you're after a fun, focused portable games machine and can do without the multimedia features of the PSP, the Nintendo DS is a great device at a great price. ☺



NINTENDO DS VS SONY PSP: HOW THEY COMPARE

	Nintendo DS	Sony PSP
Price	\$199.95	\$399.95
CPU	67MHz ARM 9, 33MHz ARM7 CPUs	333MHz PSP CPU
Display	Top screen: 3in semi-transparent reflective TFT LCD; 256 by 192 pixels; 260,000 colours Bottom screen: same specs as top screen, but with a transparent analog touchscreen	4.3in 16:9 wide-transparent TFT LCD; 480 by 272 pixels; 16.77 million colours; adjustable brightness (to prolong battery life)
System memory	4MB, 656KB video RAM	32MB, 4MB EDRAM
Size	Length: 149mm Width: 85mm Thickness: 29mm	Length: 170mm Width: 74mm Thickness: 23mm
Weight	275g (including battery and stylus)	280g (including battery)
Primary media format	DS Game Card — 128MB capacity	UMD (Universal Media Disc) — 1.8GB capacity
Controls	Four face buttons; D-pad; left and right shoulder buttons; Start/Select/Power buttons; volume control; touchscreen control	Four face buttons; D-pad; analog joystick; left and right shoulder buttons; Home/Start/Select/Power buttons; volume controls; two media control buttons
Integrated communications	Built-in 802.11 Wi-Fi and Nintendo's proprietary communication protocol	Built-in 802.11b Wi-Fi
I/O connectors	Game Boy Advance (GBA) Pak port, headphone jack	USB 2.0 port, Memory Stick Duo port, infra-red port, headphone jack
Sound	Built-in stereo speakers with support for virtual surround sound	Built-in stereo speakers
Other features	Backward compatibility with GBA games; embedded PictoChat software; embedded clock, calendar and alarm; built-in microphone for voice recognition; wrist strap with thumb button for touch control; two styluses for touch control; AC adaptor	Emulation of Cross Media Bar interface; padded case; wrist strap; wireless controller with inline remote controls; plays MP3 music; displays JPEG pictures; plays movies in UMD format or from a Memory Stick; AC adaptor
Battery	Lithium Ion (approx. 6 to 10 hours playing time; 4-hour recharge time)	Lithium Ion (approx. 5 to 12 hours playing time; 2.5-hour recharge time)
Release date	Available now	September 2005



PSP music and video guide

Dan Gardiner shows how to turn your PSP into a full-featured portable media player.

Although at first glance it may look like just another gaming device, the Sony PlayStation Portable (PSP) is capable of a lot more than just games. It's a veritable multimedia powerhouse, which will let you play back your videos and music, and browse pictures as well.

What you'll need

Before you can make use of these features, there are a few things you'll need.

◆ A 32MB Memory Stick just doesn't cut it if you want to use your PSP for movies and music. We recommend 256MB at the minimum, preferably 512MB or higher. A bigger Memory Stick will let you store better-quality and/or more media files. You should also format your Memory Stick using your PSP's Settings → System Settings → Format Memory Stick tool. This will erase *all* of the data on your Memory Stick, so back up any files you may need to your PC before you format.

◆ A PSP USB cable is essential for copying your media files from your PC to your PSP. Specifically, you need a male type A to type Mini-B USB connector. Many digital cameras use this type of USB cable, so before you run out and buy a new one, check to see if your digital camera uses one already. The PSP's USB port can be found on top of the unit, above the screen; it's directly in the centre.

ON THE COVER DISCS

You'll find the following tools to convert audio and video for use on your PSP on this month's cover discs: PSP Video 9 1.53, CDex 1.51 and Auto Gordian Knot 2.09 beta.

- ◆ PSP Video 9 conversion software, included on our cover discs, for re-encoding your videos to enable the PSP to play them back.
- ◆ CDex (optional) for converting your digital music files into MP3 format.

Get videos on your PSP

Playing videos on your PSP sadly isn't just a matter of copying your movie files over. The PSP cannot read most common digital video formats like DivX/XviD, MPEG-1/2 or WMV; you'll need to convert your videos to the specific MPEG-4-based format that the PSP can read for you to be able to play them.

This is where a handy freeware application called PSP Video 9 (www.pspvideo9.com) comes in. It's been specifically tailored to re-encode all sorts of video files (from unencrypted DVD .vob files, .mpeg files, .avi files and more) so they work on the PSP. It's reasonably easy to use, although it may seem a little confusing if you're new to video encoding.

For ease of use, PSP Video 9 (PSPV9) lets you choose from a range of preset encoding profiles. These let you quickly and easily select quality settings to suit your needs. The profiles are presented in the form resolution/frame rate/video bit rate/all audio bit rate, and these aspects all affect the quality and file size of the final video. Here's a quick breakdown of what each setting means.

◆ **Resolution.** This is how big



the final video will be, measured in width by height in pixels. The PSP's LCD screen has a native resolution of 480 by 272, so you'll probably need to downsize your videos to be able to watch them. For 4:3 aspect ratio videos (standard TV or monitor size), you'll want to use one of the 320 by 240-pixel profiles. The 368 by 208-pixel profiles are for widescreen (16:9) videos.

◆ **Frame rate.** This controls how smooth the video playback is. The PSP can only play back video at two frame rates: 29.97 frames per second (fps) or 14.985fps. This means that if your video is PAL format (25fps) or at file speed (24fps), PSPV9 will try to adjust its frame rate, too. We recommend using 29.97fps for everything except animation, which can usually handle the slower speed without becoming visually jerky.

◆ **Video bit rate.** This controls how compressed, and therefore both how big (in terms of file size) and how detailed, the video is. A higher bit rate equals higher-quality video, but bigger file sizes. The 'QB' settings (QB4, QB8 and QB10) use variable bit rate (VBR) encoding, which can help reduce your file sizes while maintaining quality. QB4 is the highest quality; QB10 is the lowest.

◆ **Audio bit rate.** Just like when you're ripping audio CDs, the bit rate here determines the quality and file size of the audio component of your movie. A setting of 96Kbps or higher is generally what we use.

You'll also find a range of profiles based on a type of video source — for example, 'Movie (0 — 2hrs)' — that are useful if you

The PSP is more than just a gaming machine — you can use it to play videos and music, too.

want to ensure your video will fit onto a 512MB Memory Stick.

In addition to these default profiles, you can create your own using the Setup → Profiles tab. It will help to have a grasp of the basic results you get from different profiles before you start dabbling here, so we recommend using the defaults until you're familiar with the way each setting affects quality.

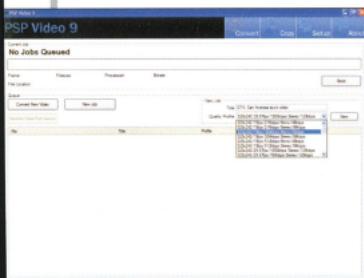
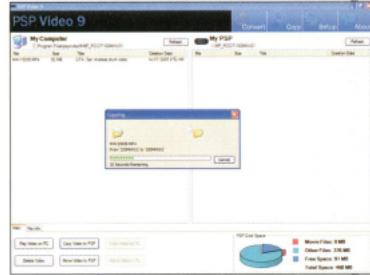
Caveats

Before you start using it, you should be aware that PSPV9 does have some flaws, and it's not 100% foolproof just yet. The most significant problem we encountered was in relation to frame rates when converting videos. In particular, if your source video is 24fps (film speed) or 25fps (PAL video speed) rather than the native 29.97fps (NTSC video speed) that the PSP supports, PSPV9 sometimes has issues synchronising the audio and video correctly. One way around this is to try using a different quality profile or, if your source video uses VBR, convert it to a constant bit rate using Auto Gordian Knot (www.autogk.me.uk) before you try processing it with PSPV9. We've included Auto Gordian Knot on the cover discs for your convenience, but please see the Web site for an FAQ on using it. There's no one way around the audio sync issue, so check out www.pspvideo9.com/forums for more help if you encounter problems.



STEP BY STEP PUT A MOVIE ON YOUR PSP

1 Connect your PSP to your PC via the USB cable, turn on the PSP and click Settings → USB Connection. Start PSP Video 9 and you should see a Welcome screen with 'PSP Found!' in big letters. If it's not, manually specify which drive it's using, and make sure you've created both the MP_ROOT and 100MNVO1 directories on your Memory Stick. Go back to your PSP, disable the USB connection by pressing X and turn it off (there's no point wasting batteries while your video is converting).



2 In PSP Video 9, click Convert → New Job. Open your source video file (in our case, we're using a Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas stunt video we found on a gaming Web site), give it the name you'd like to appear on the PSP, and finally pick a profile that suits your source video. We've chosen one of the '320x240/15fps' options, as our video is 4:3 aspect ratio and already runs at 15fps. (In many versions of Windows, you can right-click a video file and select Summary for technical information.) Click the New button and the conversion process will begin. This can take some time, depending on the length of your video, the profile you've selected and the speed of your PC.

3 Once the conversion is finished, turn your PSP back on and re-enable the USB connection. In PSP Video 9, click Copy, select your video from the list on the left and click 'Copy video to PSP'. Once the file has finished copying, left-click the 'Unplug or Eject Hardware' or 'Safely Remove Hardware' icon in your system tray and choose the drive letter that corresponds to your PSP. Back on the PSP, disable the USB connection again by pressing the X button. To begin playing your movie, navigate to Video → Memory Stick and press Circle. Now you can just sit back and enjoy the show!

Video playback

The controls for video playback on the PSP are quite simple. Select Video → Memory Stick for a list of videos, and press Circle to start playback. While playing, using the left and right D-pad buttons fast-forwards and rewinds; press Triangle for an onscreen control menu, which will let you do things like resize the screen, use slow motion and so on. Pressing X stops playback.

Music on the PSP

The PSP supports the playback of two digital audio formats natively: MP3 and ATRAC3plus. It does not support WMA or OGG, so if you've encoded your files in either one of these formats, you'll need to re-encode them (see below for full instructions of how to do this). If you've got plain MP3s, it's a

simple matter to get them working on your PSP. Simply plug in your PSP via the USB cable, turn it on and select Settings → USB Connection. Back in Windows, use My Computer or Windows Explorer to browse to the PSP\AUDIO folder on your Memory Stick (if you used the PSP's built-in Format function, your Memory Stick should already have this) and copy your MP3 files into this folder. The PSP can also read subfolders, so you can safely copy over whole albums in their own folders.

As with video playback, the basic music controls are quite simple, but there are quite a few advanced ones as well. Use the D-pad to navigate your files and press Circle to play and X to stop. While playing, Triangle brings up a list of onscreen controls that you can access

using the D-pad, and you use Circle to select an item. The shoulder buttons (L and R) skip forward or back between tracks, and the left and right D-pad buttons fast-forward or rewind the currently playing track. Pressing Select will take you back to the PSP browsing interface, but will continue to play your track. Hitting the musical note button lets you select between five equalizer presents: Heavy, Pops, Jazz, Unique or Off.

If your music files are not in MP3 format, here's how to re-encode them so they're PSP-friendly. Install and run CDE 1.51 from the cover discs, and select Options → Settings. Under Encoder, make sure 'Lame MP3 Encoder' is selected (it should be the default) and change any settings you desire (you may wish to make the

minimum bit rate higher than 128Kbps, for example), then Click OK. Next, click Convert → 'Re-encode Compressed Audio File(s)', and select the files you want to convert. Click the Convert button and CDE will go about changing your music files — you'll find the new re-encoded MP3s in the CDE output directory (by default, C:\My Music).

Photos on the PSP

Getting images on your PSP is very easy: simply connect it to your PC as described above and copy any images to the PSP\PHOTO directory on your Memory Stick. Then, on your PSP, browse to Photo → Memory Stick for a list of images. You can skip forward and backwards using the shoulder buttons, or press Triangle for more options.

King-sized adventure

Julian Schoffel
reviews the hottest
upcoming games,
starting with an
adventure game of
gigantic proportions.

King Kong

Ubisoft's *King Kong* game is approaching completion. Its release will tie in with Peter Jackson's cinematic remake of *King Kong*, which is due out later in the year.

We recently visited Ubisoft's Sydney office where they gave us a real-time demonstration of the Xbox version of this stunning action/adventure offering, and from what we saw Ubisoft and Peter Jackson have gone to great lengths to ensure that the videogame incarnation does full justice to the film.

At the start of the game, some Skull Island natives hoist a



Platform: PC, all major consoles Contact:
Ubisoft Phone: (02) 8587 1800 Web: www.ubi.com/uk/ Release date: Late 2005

woman up into the air over a giant sacrificial altar. After a dramatic build-up, King Kong appears, grabs the woman and moves off into the jungle.

The game then shifts focus to Jack Driscoll and Co. as they attempt to flee from the aforementioned natives. The group eventually manages to escape into the surrounding ruins only to be confronted by a small, raptor-like dinosaur. Seemingly out of nowhere, a gigantic centipede appears and attacks the dinosaur.

In the next sequence, Driscoll's party has ventured further into the jungle. An enormous Tyrannosaurus Rex emerges from the jungle and devours one of the men, unperturbed by Driscoll's attempts to shoot it. When Driscoll runs out of bullets, he proceeds to hurl spears at the creature. Whenever the T-Rex scores a hit or roars at him, an extremely cool-looking blur

You will often need to use improvised weapons.



effect distorts the entire game screen, almost as if Driscoll's sensors are being overpowered.

Chased by T-Rexes and Pterodactyl-like creatures, the group attempts to escape by paddling some rickety bamboo rafts down a series of rapids and waterfalls. At this point King Kong suddenly reappears out of the jungle, still holding the woman. When he sees the T-Rex he goes into a rage, puts the girl down, and then charges towards the dinosaur. In the final sequence, Kong proceeds to attack the T-Rex and a titanic battle ensues...

When you're controlling Jack Driscoll the other characters speak directly to you, making you feel as if you're caught up in a grand adventure of epic proportions.

Unlike most games, *King Kong* doesn't have a HUD or user interface of any kind, leaving the game screen completely uncluttered of any distracting features. The idea

behind this is to immerse you in what's happening onscreen and if what we saw is any indication, the system seems to work pretty damned well.

When you're controlling Kong, the viewpoint switches from first to third person. Kong emanates raw power and speed, and is capable of kicking, biting, punching, grappling and even ripping up objects and using them as makeshift weapons. Kong is also extremely agile and can jump and swing around the jungle landscape with relative ease. When the need arises, he can use his brute power to push objects out of the way. The lack of an onscreen interface means you rely on visual cues to tell you when Kong is taking damage. This is quite intuitive and if Kong tires or gets wounded, he simply has to find a safe place to recuperate.

If the demo was any indication, the game looks to be one extremely wild ride!

Prince of Persia 3

Ubisoft also gave us real-time demonstrations of some of their other key titles due out later this year. The first of these was *Prince of Persia 3* (POP3).

The Prince, now a seasoned warrior, returns from the Island of Time to Babylon with his love interest, Kaireena. Upon his return he finds his homeland ravaged by war and the kingdom turned against him. When the Prince is captured, Kaireena unleashes the Sands of Time to save him and sacrifices herself in the process. Cast out



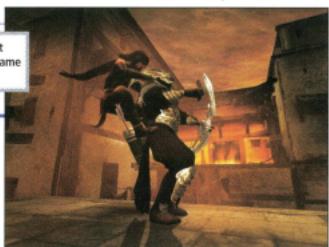
Platform: PC, all major consoles Contact: Ubisoft
Phone: (02) 8587 1800 Web: www.princeofpersiagame.com/uk/ Release date: Late 2005

on the street and hunted as a fugitive, the Prince is gradually overcome by an evil alter ego.

Not long into the demo, it became clear that POP3 is a much darker game than its predecessors. This stems from the fact that the Prince now has two split personalities, each with its own distinct combat styles and abilities. In an interesting twist the Prince uses fire and water to change between these two forms.

Despite the darker tone, the game looks absolutely gorgeous

The game is definitely geared towards an older audience.



with butter-smooth animation and a new context-sensitive movement system. This makes it easier to exploit each character's moves and abilities.

In the demo, the 'dark' Prince cuts a sway through

numerous enemies, dropping down on them from above and strangling them with a chain. The game is pretty gory and one of the bosses we saw was actually quite hideous, resembling a kind of grossly

deformed ogre-like creature. Unlike previous games in the series, POP3 definitely seems geared towards an older, more mature audience.

Blazing Angels: Squadrons of WWII

Another game we saw during our visit to Ubisoft was *Blazing Angels: Squadrons of WWII* (BA). This action-oriented flight combat game lets you test your skills in some of the most famous battles of World War II. As a squadron leader, you'll be able to fly up to 40 WWII aircraft in both single-player and multiplayer missions.

In the demo, we saw a massive air battle raging over Pearl Harbour. There were loads of planes in the air and plenty of ground features like buildings, warehouses, piers, vehicles and massive warships. A lot of effort has obviously been put into modelling ground troops and

Other standout moments included a frenetic *Ben-Hur*-style chariot race through the streets of Babylon and lightning-fast combat

when the plane swooped low, you could see individual soldiers milling around in a fairly realistic manner.

The visuals were quite impressive, but by no means jaw-dropping. Standout features included realistic smoke haze (which when flown through drastically affects your field of vision) and reflective water.

BA is built around squadron-based combat and you will be able to fly alongside computer-controlled wingmen powered by advanced artificial intelligence. The game will feature a 20-mission single-player campaign, which will be very much in the vein of *Crimson Skies*, according

to the folks at Ubisoft. BA also includes support for Xbox Live and up to 16 players will be able to engage in head-to-head dogfights or cooperative teamplay between squadrons.

If the demo we saw was anything to go by, then *Prince of Persia 3* looks extremely promising.

Stay tuned for more detailed coverage, including a full review, in the coming months.



The game features realistic smoke haze and reflective water.

Far Cry: Instincts

Apart from *King Kong*, *Far Cry: Instincts* was the most impressive game we saw demonstrated at Ubisoft's Sydney office. In an interesting twist, Ubisoft recently announced that *Instincts* would now be exclusive to Xbox. We can only assume that this means the title was just too visually demanding for the aging PS2.

The storyline of the game closely mirrors the PC version: you control Jack Carver, a bad-ass dude with a mysterious past. Carver is trying to make a fresh start with a charter boat business in the South Pacific. As the game begins he has been hired by an American photojournalist, Valerie Constantine, to take her to an uncharted island in Micronesia. After delivering Valerie to the island, his boat is sunk by mercenaries, leaving him stranded thousands of kilometres from home in a hostile environment.

Soon after arriving on the island Carver receives



Platform: Xbox Contact: Ubisoft Phone: (02) 8587 1800 Web: www.farcrygame.com Release date: September 2005

assistance from a mysterious individual named Harlan Doyle. Carver also stumbles across a secret island compound controlled by a sinister character known as Krieger. Krieger was formerly a World Health Organisation scientist, but disappeared amid the storm of controversy surrounding his genetic research program. Carver's main objectives are to rescue Valerie, find out what Krieger is up to and escape from the island.

From what we saw, *Instincts* looks almost as good as the PC version, which is a pretty impressive feat. The combat system has been significantly beefed up and Carver is now able to exploit terrain, move more stealthily, snipe from greater distances, and even use traps.

But the most interesting

The combat system has been significantly beefed up.



aspect of the game is Carver's new Feral abilities. Without spoiling the storyline, at some point in the game Carver gets injected with a cocktail of gene-altering drugs. As a consequence, he begins to mutate and evolve, gaining advanced tracking abilities, superhuman speed and lethal melee attacks. While this certainly adds spice to the single-player component, the implications for multiplayer are enormous!

This brings us to the game's much talked about Predator multiplayer mode, where a squad of mercenary players are pitted against a lone predator

player with full-powered Feral abilities. The mercenaries have to try to secure a transmitter tower that triggers a kill switch and destroys the predator. The predator has to try and pick them off one by one.

Instincts will include full support for Xbox Live and will even be provided with a built-in level editor to create your own custom maps. The game will also support up to 16 players in all the traditional multiplayer game variants, along with the Predator mode.

Far Cry: Instincts is scheduled to hit the shelves in September. Stay tuned for a full review shortly. ☺



Platform: Xbox Contact: Ubisoft Phone: (02) 8587 1800 Web: www.blazing-angels.com/ UK Release date: Late 2005

this one will really shine on Xbox Live. *Blazing Angels* is scheduled to ship later this year.

New Greek classic

Julian Schoffel reviews the hottest new games for PC and consoles.

God of War

Anchored in Greek mythology *God of War*'s storyline centres on an ex-Spartan warrior known as Kratos. At the start of the game Kratos is in a despairing, suicidal state of mind. Just as he plunges over a cliff to his (apparent) death, the game rewinds back through time to explain how Kratos got into this sorry state in the first place. Virtually all of Kratos's foes come straight out of Greek legends. These include the Hydra, Medusa, Gorgons, Minotaur, Cyclops and the gods themselves. Indeed Kratos's main quest in the game is to



Platform: PS2 Price: \$99.95 Contact: Sony Computer Entertainment Phone: 1300 365 911 Web: www.godofwargame.com Classification: MA (15+) + Seamless blend of action, adventure and puzzle solving + Gorgeous visuals + Compelling storyline



The game is anchored in Greek mythology.



find and kill the god of war, Ares. Basic gameplay consists of moving Kratos through a series of lavish 3D environments, engaging all manner of foes in combat and frequently solving puzzles. Kratos is a prodigiously skilled warrior and his main tools of the trade are a formidable set of chain-blades, which function like dual whips with wicked swords tied to the ends. The gods provide Kratos with plenty of other lethal weapons and abilities as the game progresses. At times, the game feels decidedly railed, but the action is so fluid and the visuals so grandiose that most

players probably won't care. The game also manages to weave plenty of fiendish puzzles in among the action set pieces. These usually consist of pulling a sequence of levers/switches or moving objects around the gameworld. Solving a puzzle will usually result in Kratos gaining access to a new area. Successfully completing the game unlocks a variety of extras, including 'making of' videos

and an additional difficulty level (God mode). *God of War* is without question one of the finest PS2 games we have ever played! The game's seamless blend of action, epic adventure and puzzle solving is a delight in itself, but it also offers gorgeous visuals, a compelling storyline and loads of unlockable extras. In short, it is the complete gaming package.

Destroy All Humans

Destroy All Humans (DAH) is a tongue-in-cheek tribute to B-grade sci-fi movies of the 1950s. As the title suggests, the game's twist is simple: rather than controlling a human character, you go in to bat for the aliens. To this end much of the game revolves around exterminating hapless Homo sapiens, extracting their DNA and inserting the odd anal probe... You control Crypto, an alien warrior sent to Earth to clear the way for the Furion invasion force. Your mission is to infiltrate humanity, control them, harvest their brain stems and ultimately destroy them. At

its heart, DAH is a simplistic 3D shooter with two basic mission types: ground-based missions where you wander around the countryside terrorising the populace, and ship-based missions where you pilot a flying saucer kitted out with a lethal array of weaponry. While the missions themselves aren't especially compelling, this is more than compensated for by the game's abundant humour. Chock-full of references to repressed 1950s America and cheesy sci-fi flicks, DAH is sometimes downright hilarious. The game's 3D visuals are quite slick for a PS2 game. You will



Platform: PS2 Price: \$99.95 Contact: THQ Phone: (03) 9573 9200 Web: www.destroyallhumansgame.com Classification: M (15+) + Tongue-in-cheek humour + Accessible and fun - Repetitive, relatively shallow gameplay

Your mission is simple: destroy humanity.



find plenty of crisp, colourful 3D terrain to explore ranging from serene (well, it was until Crypto arrived) countryside to sprawling urban environments. The game's audio fares similarly well, although in our opinion the actor playing Crypto doesn't quite nail it. If you've had your fill of grim sci-fi offerings like

Madagascar

The Nintendo DS version of *Madagascar* loosely follows the storyline of the recent animated flick. As the game begins Marty

the zebra is celebrating his 10th birthday. Sick of life in Central Park Zoo, he decides to escape, along with his friends Alex the

lion, Melman the giraffe, Gloria the hippo and a pack of wily penguins. *Madagascar* consists of fairly traditional side-

scrolling/platform fare with a few gameplay twists thrown in for good measure. During the course of the game, you control

Marty, Alex, Melman and Gloria, although you'll occasionally take control of the penguins as well. Each character has their own inherent strengths and weaknesses, necessitating frequent character swapping to overcome certain obstacles. *Madagascar* relies on a conventional D-pad/button control scheme to move the characters around, but you'll occasionally encounter a level that makes use of the lower

touchscreen. For the most part though, it is only used for menu selections. The game's visuals are bright and colourful, but not especially memorable. The game's audio is passable, although the music started to get on our nerves after a while. While *Madagascar* is quite a fun little platform offering, it doesn't adequately exploit the Nintendo DS's lower touchscreen and, as a consequence, feels too much like a Game Boy Advance game.

Quite a fun little platform game.



Platform: Nintendo DS

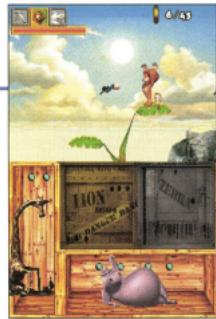
Price: \$79.95 Contact:

Activision Phone: (02)

9869 0955 Web: www.madagascarthe-game.com

Classification: G (8+) + Decent side-

scrolling/platform fare + Colourful cast of characters - Fails to exploit lower touchscreen



ER

At first glance, the *ER* game appears to have a lot of potential: it features the voice acting skills of three of the TV show's most prominent actors (Noah Wyle, Mekhi Phifer and Sherry Stringfield), its engine bears a passing resemblance to that of *The Sims* 2 and, because it's based on the TV show, it has a wealth of dramatic material to draw from. Regrettably, the game fails to adequately exploit any of these elements and the whole exercise rapidly deteriorates into an insipid click-fest. In the game, you create your own intern before embarking on a medical career at Chicago's County General hospital. Basic gameplay consists of moving your character around the hospital, interacting with other staff

members, diagnosing patients and, if your character's skill level is high enough, treating them. Unfortunately, most of these tasks are accomplished by repeatedly clicking the left mouse button. *ER*'s much-touted episodic gameplay also doesn't amount to much. The game's storylines appear to be there merely as an excuse for wackily dressed patients, rather than to generate any sort of dramatic tension. You will treat countless weirdos during the course of the game, such as clowns and comic book characters, many of whom miraculously stay in character despite their medical condition. *ER* includes some very Sim-like elements, such as your character's hygiene, composure and energy needs. These three

Platform: PC

Price: \$49.95 Contact:

Mindscape Phone: (02)

9964 0475 Web: www.ergame.com

Classification: M (15+) + Solid voice acting - Half-baked gameplay - Zero drama

Where's the drama?



Retro Atari Classics

Retro Atari Classics (RAC) is a compilation of ancient Atari arcade videogames (we're talking early 1970s here for the likes of *Pong*) that have been reworked to suit the Nintendo DS portable games console. The games on offer include *Centipede*, *Pong*, *Tempest*, *Missile Command*, *Warlords*, *Breakout*, *Sprint*, *Gravitar*, *Asteroids* and *Lunar Lander*. The names alone almost bring a tear to the eye of old farts like yours truly, and I can remember spending many an hour in the game arcades, wasting a zillion 20c pieces on these suckers. The games' control schemes have been rejigged to make use of the

Nintendo DS's lower touchscreen. In some instances, this works fairly well, but in most cases it totally changes the feel of the game and not in a good way. Aside from the new touchscreen controls, the games also feature two modes of play: Classic and Remix. As you'd expect, Classic mode closely emulates the visual style of the original games, while Remix mode provides artistic reinterpretations by some prominent graffiti artists. These changes are purely aesthetic and the core gameplay remains identical. While it's kind of cool being able to play these videogame classics on a DS, in

Platform: Nintendo DS Price:

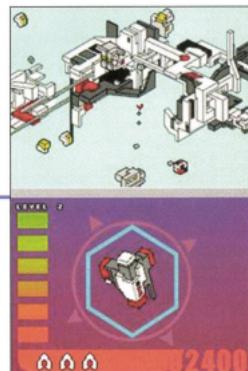
\$69.95 Contact: Atari Australia Phone: 1800 060

605 Web: www.atari.com.au/games/overview.do?id=305

Classification: G (8+) + Classic retro games lineup

- Touchscreen controls don't feel right - Remix modes look hideous

Atari would have been better served letting sleeping dogs lie.



all honesty the new control schemes and graphics just don't work all that well. In our opinion, Atari would have been better served letting sleeping dogs lie. ☺

Data projectors

Whether for business or after hours use, data projectors will bring your display to life. But be careful when choosing, writes Darren Yates.

Data projectors have a long history as a business tool, but it's their ability to please when watching movies at home that has seen a real increase in their popularity — that, and their rapidly shrinking price tags. Some models in this roundup sell for less than \$1,400, which is a fraction of the cost of many big-screen TVs.

Unfortunately, the drop in price comes with a corresponding drop in quality in some models, so while the prices looked great, a good number of the models we tested didn't. Yes, there are still some great-value projectors out there, but you have to know what to look for and, most importantly, what to avoid.

What we found

Texas Instruments's digital light processing (DLP) technology is rapidly overtaking traditional liquid crystal display (LCD) as the prime technology behind most of today's projectors. Both technologies have their qualities

and drawbacks.

LCD projectors generally have less contrast (blacks are more grey than black) and often have a 'flyscreen' effect, where the LCD's dot matrix structure has sufficient gaps between each pixel that on some models it's as though you're viewing through a flyscreen.

On the other hand, cheaper DLP projectors have a subtler drawback that's known as the 'rainbow' effect or colour flashing. DLP projectors use thousands of tiny mirrors to 'switch on' each pixel of light. To get full colour, the light passes through a colour wheel (a small rapidly rotating wheel with red, green, and blue filters), and if that wheel doesn't spin fast enough, you can observe colour flashes or a rainbow effect as you view.

The colour wheel has equal-sized segments of the three primary TV colours: red, green and blue (RGB). There are one or two five-segment wheels — red, green, blue, white, yellow (RGBWY) and some six-segment

RGB wheels as well. However, while the segments affect the colour, the spinning speed is the key to avoiding colour flashing. It's most noticeable on 2x wheels, less noticeable on 3x wheels and almost impossible to spot on the more expensive 4x wheels.

Caveats

One of the big things to look out for when purchasing a projector is replacement lamp costs. Most lamps will only last 3,000 hours even at a stretch, so you need to factor in the cost of replacement lamps. While projector prices have tumbled, replacement lamps have not been so obliging. Few lamps have a recommended retail price of under \$500, but you may find one or two on special, so look around before you buy.

Given that most vendors only offer a 90-day warranty on the lamp, it's something else you need to consider. All that said, you'd have to rack up plenty of hours for replacement costs to add up to a \$5,000 plasma TV. Regardless of price, image quality should be your primary objective, because there's no point having a cheap lamp replacement if the image is lousy to begin with.

TOP TIP

Beware the lamp

While most vendors will happily tell you their projector lamps will last 2,000 hours in standard mode and 3,000 hours in eco mode, there's no guarantee you'll get anywhere near that. In fact, most vendors only provide a 90-day or 500-hour warranty on the lamp, whichever of those comes first. The only exception is HP's vp6315 with its 8,000-hour lamp life backed up by a two-year guarantee.

The advent of so-called home theatre projectors is making widescreen projectors more popular at home, but you do need to be careful because most offer less than SVGA resolution, less brightness than standard SVGA models and cost more to boot. They're unable to handle computer screen (VGA) inputs without some compromise, either.

Obviously, we can't cover every model on the market, but use our reviews as a guide when shopping. Armed with the right knowledge, you'll be viewing presentations or enjoying your movies on the big screen, without spending big.

BUDGET SVGA PROJECTORS

Sony VPLES2

The LCD technology in Sony's VPL-ES2 resulted in one of the better-quality units you'll see at this price. Sony has also added in some nice little extras, such as motorised tilt control and a lens cover. You also get automatic vertical keystone correction, and you can switch it to manual mode, which is great. While most LCD projectors have that typical flyscreen effect, the VPLES2 wasn't too bad in that respect and quite watchable. It handles

8 Price: \$1,769 Contact: Sony Phone: 1300 137 669 Web: www.sony.com.au
+ Auto tilt function + Auto vertical keystone correction + Flyscreen effect passable

downscaling of 1,024 by 768-pixel resolution Windows screens well, maintaining quite good clarity in our tests. We most admired its ability to handle DVD playback. The quality here — particularly in colour and, most importantly, contrast levels — was second to



none in this category. Its tonal characteristics were excellent, making it a great choice even just on S-Video, let alone HDTV on component video. The downside is that the fan is rated at 36dBA, one of the louder models we tested, although it

wasn't too bad in practice. The replacement lamp costs \$549, which is the average. While a significant number of projectors we tested had problems with contrast and tonal accuracy, the VPLES2 did a marvellous job of making everything watchable.

OTHER BUDGET SVGA PROJECTORS TESTED

HP vp6315



Price: \$1,899 Contact: HP
Contact: 13 13 47 Web:
www.hp.com.au + Well
built + 8,000-hour lamp life
- Rainbow effect

HP's vp6315 is one of the better-built projectors we've seen. It feels solid, helped by the built-in handle in the front-left corner. We didn't particularly enjoy its image quality, but its lamp life is impressive. HP claims the lamp will do 4,000 hours in standard 1,600 ANSI lumens mode and an amazing 8,000 hours in low-power eco mode. Unfortunately, this projector suffered from colour flashes. It did a capable job of Windows applications, although considerable contrast crushing of near-whites rules it out as a DVD projector in our opinion. But for business, this is one of the better models around.

Epson EMP-S3



Price: \$1,295 Contact:
Epson Phone: (02) 8899
3666 Web: www.epson
.com.au + No-flicker LCD - Digital
zoom only - Noticeable flyscreen

Epson's EMP-S3 replaces the older EMP-S1, but even though it's cheaper at \$1,295, its overall design has changed little. It matches the majority of models in this category with its 1,600 ANSI lumens brightness, but the digital zoom only gives you minimal room for image adjustment. The overall image quality was good with both S-

Video and HDTV inputs, although the flyscreen effect was clearly visible. Unfortunately, this was one of the bulkiest units we tested. However, Epson continues to provide very cheap replacement lamps, with the lamp for this model selling for under \$350. Clearly, some features are missing in order to get the price down, but we think Epson may have gone just a step too far by ditching optical zoom.

NEC VT47G



Price: \$1,399 Contact: NEC
Phone: 13 16 32 Web:
www.nec.com.au + Auto
vertical keystone correction
- Noticeable flyscreen - Expensive
lamp replacement cost

Although it's one of the cheapest projectors ever, NEC's entry-level VT47G can't match the more expensive ones for visual quality or extras. Being an LCD design, the flyscreen effect was clearly noticeable. Image quality on the whole was passable, although it didn't

handle the downscaling of our 1,024 by 768-pixel Windows desktop very well. The unit also features digital rather than optical zoom. The VT47G features auto vertical keystone correction up to an excellent +/-30°. A low-noise 28dBA fan makes it one of the quietest projectors out. Unfortunately, the \$750 cost on replacement lamps is steep. Overall though, it's a competent budget projector at a budget price.

Acer PD113P



Price: \$1,435 Contact:
Acer Phone: 1800 366 567
Web: www.acer.com.au
+ Smooth image + Low-noise fan
- Severe colour flashing

The image quality of this DLP was generally smoother than most of the LCD models, but not what you'd call sharp. It delivers the same 2,000-hour standard/3,000 eco mode lamp life as most other models and features a low-noise 28dBA fan. However, the fact that it features

a 2x colour wheel is the major drawback. The colour flashing was enough to put us off using it to watch a movie. The colour accuracy and depth on our DVD test was quite reasonable. This is an OK projector that's unfortunately undone by the colour flashing issue.

InFocus X2



Price: \$1,699 Contact:
InFocus Phone: 1800
885 481 Web: www
.infocus.com + Good Windows
downscaling - Noisy fan
- Noticeable colour flashing

The InFocus X2 exhibited most of what we don't like in a projector. Its budget DLP design gave noticeable colour flashing during testing and it was one of the noisiest models we've heard at 39dBA. It claims a contrast level of 2,000:1, but near-whites were crushing and blacks were a muddy grey. This model did well on our Windows desktop test, but overall, it was too big, too noisy and not exceptional. ☺

BUDGET SVGA PROJECTORS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	Acer PD113P	Epson EMP-S3	HP vp6315	InFocus X2	NEC VT47G	Sony VPLES2
SPECIFICATIONS						
Native resolution	800 by 600	800 by 600	800 by 600	800 by 600	800 by 600	800 by 600
Projection sensor	DLP	LCD	DLP	DLP	LCD	LCD
Brightness - standard/eco	1,600/1,200	1,600/1,400	1,600/N/A	1,600/1,100	1,500/1,200	1,500/1,300
Contrast ratio	2,000:1	500:1	2,000:1	2,000:1	400:1	350:1
Digital keystone correction	+/-15°	+/-30°	+/-20°	+/-10°	+/-30°	+/-15°
Aspect Ratios supported	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9
Lamp type and power	200W UHP	125W UHE	210W UHP	200W SHP	130W DC	185W UHP
Lamp hours - standard/eco	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	4,000/8,000	4,000/N/A	2,000/3,000	3,000/4,000
Fan noise level - standard/eco	30dB/28dB	36dB/34dB	39dB/37dB	28dB/26dB	36dB/34dB	35dB/33dB
Dimensions (mm)/weight	265x202x90/2.0kg	327x246x98/2.5kg	280x255x102/3.1kg	249x327x106/3.1kg	294x260x93/2.9kg	295x338x78/2.8kg
Max. PC display resolution	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,400 by 1,050	1,024 by 768	1,600 by 1,200	1,024 by 768
INPUTS						
VGA/component/S-Video/ composite	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes	Yes/No/Yes/Yes	Yes/No/Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes
DVI-D/DVI-A	No/No	No/No	No/No	Yes/No	No/No	No/No
Replacement lamp cost	\$680	\$349	N/A	\$618	\$725	\$549
TEST RESULTS						
DVD/HDTV/PC quality	6.5/6.5/7	7.5/7.5/7	6/6/8	5.5/5.5/8	7/7/6.5	8.5/7.5/8

XGA PROJECTORS

BenQ PB6210



Price: \$2,199 Contact:

BenQ Phone: (02) 9352 8800 Web: www.benq.com.au + Clean Windows image
- Expensive replacement lamps
- Crushed contrast

BenQ's PB6210 was one of the best DLP projectors we saw this month. While its image quality was taken aback by some crushing in its contrast, its 3x colour wheel gave significantly less colour flashing than all of the 2x models, although it was still noticeable. It's a fairly standard model otherwise, with a typical 2,000/3,000-hour lamp life in normal/eco mode. Its 2,000 ANSI lumens brightness matches all of the models bar the X3 in this category, yet its low 30dBA noise level is significantly better than the Epson, HP and InFocus models. Unfortunately, BenQ wants a hefty \$789 to replace its 200W lamp, so it's worth carefully thinking about. A good clean image on Windows makes this one of the better DLP models.

Epson EMP-732



Price: \$2,649 Contact:

Epson Phone: (02) 8899 3666 Web: www.epson.com.au + Auto vertical keystone correction - A bit noisy - Flyscreen effect noticeable

Despite being the only LCD model in this category, the EMP-732 offered the best value of the five units tested. The EMP-732 still suffered from some flaws though. It has a noticeable flyscreen issues, but we found that more bearable in business applications than the rainbow

effect of 2x DLP projectors. Its contrast range wasn't a strong point in our testing either, backed up by its low 400:1 specification. Coupled with its fairly high fan noise level of 39dBA, the EMP-732 wouldn't be our choice for DVD movies. However, it does have some good features, including a wide +/-30° vertical keystone correction range and a good, stable PC image through its VGA port. At just 1.7kg, it's also one of the lightest models you'll find. Overall, the EMP-732 is arguably one of the better XGA projectors out, but at this price, it's value is still a little shaky.

Acer PD125



Price: TBA Contact: Acer Phone: 1800 366 567 Web: www.acer.com.au
+ Lightweight design - Poor contrast/video handling - Significant rainbow effect issues

The PD125 is a new XGA DLP model, but colour flashing was particularly bad on this model. While we could not confirm it, the strength of the flashing suggests it uses a 2x wheel. On Windows, it does a very good job with strong colouring. This was another unit to claim a high contrast ratio of 2,000:1, but in practice, it crushed the white levels, making it a poor choice for DVD movies. It's a fairly compact design weighing a reasonable 2.5kg. Its 2W RMS onboard audio amp was only bettered by the X3's 2.5W RMS option. However, the colour flashing on this model was enough for us to look elsewhere.

HP mp3222

The mp3222 was one of the more compact projectors we tested. It displayed a clean image on Windows applications,



Price: \$2,599 Contact: HP Phone: 13 13 47 Web: www.hp.com.au
+ Compact design - Poor video colour depth - Poor contrast

but it has a noticeable weakness with video. Whether it's HDTV from a PC or S-Video from a DVD player, it showed considerable crushing in terms of contrast, particularly near-whites, and its colour depth was poor. *Pearl Harbor's* explosion effects appeared as though they consisted of just three colours: red, yellow and white. We also found the unit's aspect ratio was wrong for PC video input, and we couldn't get 16:9 aspect ratio video right regardless of how we set the projector. Thankfully, this unit features industry-standard input connectors. On typical PC Windows applications, the mp3222 does well, but the lack of colour depth in our test unit left us cold.

InFocus X3



Price: \$1,999 Contact: InFocus Phone: 1800 885 481 Web: www.infocus.com
+ Wireless data transfer option - Noisy - 2x colour wheel

The X3 comes in the same basic chassis as the X2, but adds XGA resolution into its feature list. However, it's another of the single-chip DLP models with a 2x colour wheel, and the rainbow effect was noticeable. It's also another unit we wouldn't consider for home theatre work, given the high 39dBA noise level of the internal

fan. For business use, you get great features such as a wireless connectivity option. On the down side, it has the smallest keystone correction angle of the units we tested at only +/-10°, and is one of the few projectors we tested over 3kg. Its image quality on Windows applications was remarkably good, showing good colour and sharpness. Despite having a 2,000:1 contrast ratio, the X3 didn't handle near-blacks or whites as well as we would have expected. All up, good Windows image quality might get this one over the line for business use, but check that rainbow effect before you buy.

HOW WE TESTED

Each projector was subjected to three sets of tests involving three different data inputs.

We started with Sony's VGN-S38GP notebook PC providing its 1,024 by 768-pixel VGA output to each projector's computer input. This helped us check its sharpness on characters and general Windows applications. We then got Windows Media Player to play a 1,440 by 810-pixel HDTV copy of a big-name Hollywood movie captured using a Dvico FusionHDTV tuner card to test each unit's handling of HDTV-resolution video and its accuracy in downscaling. After that, we used Sony's DVPF25 DVD player to run the movie *Pearl Harbor* through each projector's S-Video input.

In each case, the projector was set to 50% contrast and 50% brightness initially to determine base quality, and then adjusted to give the best picture quality. We checked for pixelation of the video as well as scanning and aspect ratio errors. We also checked for flyscreening with LCD projectors and colour flashing/rainbow effect on DLP models.

We did not test composite video quality, as the composite video standard itself is too much of a compromise to give any real indication.

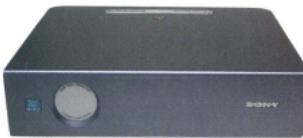
HOME THEATRE PROJECTORS

Sony VPLDS100

Sony's new VPLDS100 is an exclusively 16:9 widescreen projector with stunning image quality, particularly the colour accuracy and depth. The price isn't bad either. It may only be an SVGA model, but combined with some useful and clever features, it was just about as good as we saw. Interestingly, it can only accept a maximum PC resolution of 1,024 by 768 pixels,

but it downscals that resolution to 800 by 600 very well. There was some noticeable flyscreening, but not as much as we saw in some of the budget LCD models. We were so drawn in by the terrific colour depth that we soon lost notice of it anyway. Other features include a built-in self-retracting lens cover, an auto motorised front tilt leg that rises when the

B Price: \$1,450
Contact: Sony
Phone: 1300 137
669 Web: www.sony.com.au
+ Excellent video processing + Motorised tilt
- Some flyscreening



projector powers up and automatic vertical keystone correction, making this unit all the more impressive. Fan noise levels in full lamp brightness mode aren't great at 36dBa, but

that said, we didn't overly notice it during testing. As an all-rounder with more emphasis on after hours entertainment, the VPL-DS100 gets a definite nod from us.

InFocus ScreenPlay 4805

We'd go so far as to say that the ScreenPlay 4805 is about as good as you'll see in a home

B Price: \$2,199 Contact:
InFocus Phone: 1800 885
481 Web: www.infocus.com
+ 4x colour wheel + Good video processing - Low light output

theatre DLP projector at this price. The key is its 4x colour wheel — at this speed, colour flashing is all but impossible to detect. However, it's unfortunate that this and other home theatre projectors offer less resolution

than the 'business' models. The 4805 has a native resolution of 854 by 480 pixels, so the resolution is better suited to US HDTV rather than Australian HDTV standards. Australian TV's 576-line signals need reprocessing to fit, whereas in the US, their basic HDTV standard is 480 horizontal TV lines. The 4805 has just 750 ANSI lumens to light up your screen. It's more compact than

the X2 and X3 models, yet manages to include a DVI-D connector. With that 4x colour wheel, you've got more than a fighting chance of getting a decent image to start with, and we'd certainly pick this unit over any 2x colour wheel model. The bottom line is this is the cheapest 4x DLP projector we've seen — for a home theatre projector, this one's definitely one of our preferred choices.

Toshiba TDP-MT200

Another of the 4x colour wheel brigade, the MT200 also has the same 854 by 480-pixel resolution and the same high contrast ratio, even exceeding the ScreenPlay 4805 at an impressive 2,500:1. Those paper specs show up in real life with the unit exhibiting excellent contrast and a good, clear image. It has all the usual video inputs and includes DVI-D as well. The fan noise is rated at 32dBa, which makes it one of the noisier models we tested, but still passable in our book. The vertical keystone correction is manual only, but you have optical zoom and focus at your fingertips. Given that Toshiba is aiming this one at the home theatre market, they wisely haven't wasted time installing a useless low-power amplifier. If you're going to watch DVD movies or HDTV, you'd be mad not to have a decent surround sound speaker system anyway. The DLP mechanism, while

capable of handling VGA inputs up to 1,280 by 1,024 pixels, doesn't do it spectacularly well. Toshiba claims the usual 3,000-hour lamp life, which should be good for 1,500 movies. All up, there's really a struck match between this and the ScreenPlay 4805, so it comes down to price. Despite the fact that the MT200 is the most expensive projector we tested, it's also close to the best. **B**

B Price: \$2,999 Contact:
Toshiba Phone: 13 30 70
Web: www.tsd.toshiba.com.au + 4x colour wheel
+ Good contrast on video
- Not great for PC use

**XGA PROJECTORS: HOW THEY COMPARE**

Model	Acer PD125	BenQ PB6210	Epson EMP-732	HP mp3222	InFocus X3
SPECIFICATIONS					
Native resolution	1,024 by 768	1,024 by 768	1,024 by 768	1,024 by 768	1,024 by 768
Projection sensor	DLP	DLP	LCD	DLP	DLP
Brightness - standard/eco	2,000/N/A	2,000/N/A	2,000/1,500	2,000/N/A	1,600/1,100
Contrast ratio	2,000:1	2,000:1	400:1	2,000:1	2,000:1
Aspect ratios supported	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3 (native), 16:9
Lamp type and power	200W NSH	200W NSH	170W UHE	200W P-VIP	200W SHP
Lamp hours - standard/eco	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	4,000/N/A
Fan noise level - standard/eco	30dB/N/A	30dB/26dB	39dB/36dB	37dB/35dB	39dB/37dB
Dimensions (mm)/weight	277x237x107/2.5kg	262x215x98/2.7kg	276x193x70/1.7kg	251x210x70/1.7kg	249x327x106/3.1kg
Max. PC display resolution	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,024 by 768	1,400 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024
INPUTS					
VGA/component/S-Video/composite	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes	Yes/No/Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes/Yes/Yes	Yes/No/Yes/Yes
DVI-D/DVI-A	No/No	No/No	No/No	No/No	Yes/No
Replacement lamp cost	N/A	\$789	\$725	\$649	N/A
TEST RESULTS					
DVD/HDTV/PC quality	6.5/6.5/8	6.5/6.5/7.5	7/7.7.5	5.5/6.7.5	8/8.8.5

OTHER HOME THEATRE PROJECTORS TESTED

NEC HT410



Price: \$1,799 Contact: NEC
Phone: 13 16 32 Web:
www.nec.com.au + Vertical
lens shift – Rainbow effect issues
– Not overly stable design

The HT410 is NEC's entry-level home theatre projector. Although it suffers from colour flashing, thanks to its 2x colour wheel, it has few other wrinkles. On paper, the HT410 has only a fairly low 1,200:1 contrast ratio (low for DLP), but in real-world testing, it looked remarkably good. One thing we did notice after having our test projector for some time was that it produced a significant amount of ozone that stank up our Labs. We hope this is just an issue with our test unit because you couldn't sit and watch a movie with it. The long portrait form factor makes this unit a little unsteady on its feet. Ultimately though, the 2x colour wheel damped this one's appeal.

Epson EMP-TW10H



Price: \$1,649 Contact:
Epson Phone: (02) 8899
3666 Web: www.epson.com.au – Short-throw lens + High
zoom factor – Fan noise and
flyscreen issues

The EMP-TW10H's combination of a short-throw lens with an 854 by 480-pixel LCD mechanism resulted in some significant flyscreening in our tests. Compare this with the ScreenPlay 4805 or Toshiba MT200 and you'll see it immediately. The fan noise is a reasonable 29dBa in low-power eco mode, but push the lamp to

give you its full 1,200 ANSI lumens (not huge in itself) and the noise cranks up to a hefty 38dBa. On the upside, you get manual vertical keystone correction as well as optical zoom and focus controls. The zoom factor here is a massive 54%. That short-throw lens also means you don't need a long distance between the projector and screen/wall to get a big image. All up, it's better than the 2x colour wheel DLP projectors.

Acer PH110



Price: \$1,499 Contact:
Acer Phone: 1800 366 567
Web: www.acer.com.au
+ Low-noise fan – Poor contrast on
video – Obvious rainbow effect
issues

The PH110's 854 by 480-pixel resolution makes it more suited to home theatre applications, but we found our test unit didn't

produce the sharpest of images. And despite its DLP-typical 2,000:1 contrast ratio, the image quality was quite poor with both near-blacks and near-whites crushed, even with the projector settings at a midrange 50%. We couldn't find out the speed of the colour wheel in this unit, although practical observations suggest to us that it is probably another 2x unit. Noise levels of 30dBa full/28dBa economy power modes ensure this one won't deafen you, but the image quality won't likely excite you either. DLP projectors have real potential in the home theatre market, but if you don't like flickering images, you won't like the PH110.

BenQ PE5120

produce the sharpest of images. And despite its DLP-typical 2,000:1 contrast ratio, the image quality was quite poor with both near-blacks and near-whites crushed, even with the projector settings at a midrange 50%. We couldn't find out the speed of the colour wheel in this unit, although practical observations suggest to us that it is probably another 2x unit. Noise levels of 30dBa full/28dBa economy power modes ensure this one won't deafen you, but the image quality won't likely excite you either. DLP projectors have real potential in the home theatre market, but if you don't like flickering images, you won't like the PH110.

Price: \$1,999 Contact:
BenQ Phone: (02) 9352
8800 Web: www.benq.com.au + DVI-A and RCA
component video input
+ Low-noise fan – 2x colour wheel



The PE5120 looks to be built into the same basic chassis as the other BenQ models we looked at, but with a few added extras. Unfortunately, the 2x colour wheel makes another appearance in this 854 by 480-pixel DLP projector, but it also includes DVI-A and separate RCA component video inputs –

HOME THEATRE PROJECTORS: HOW THEY COMPARE

Model	Acer PH110	BenQ PE5120	Epson EMP-TW10H	InFocus ScreenPlay 4805	NEC HT410	Sony VPLD5100	Toshiba TDP-MT200
SPECIFICATIONS							
Native resolution	854 by 480	854 by 480	854 by 480	854 by 480	854 by 480	800 by 600	854 by 480
Projection sensor	DLP	DLP	LCD	DLP	DLP	LCD	DLP
Brightness - standard/eco	1,100/N/A	1,100/880	1,200/N/A	750/N/A	1,000/800	1,200/N/A	750/N/A
Brightness - eco mode	N/A	880	N/A	N/A	800	N/A	N/A
Contrast ratio	2,000:1	2,000:1	800:1	2200:1	1,200:1	400:1	2500:1
Digital keystone correction	+/-15°	+/-15°	+/-15°	+/-20°	+/-15°	+/-15°	+/-15°
- auto correction	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Aspect Ratios supported	4:3, 16:9 (native)	4:3, 16:9 (native)	4:3, 16:9 (native)	4:3, 16:9 (native)	4:3, 16:9 (native)	4:3 (native), 16:9	4:3, 16:9 (native)
Lamp type and power	200W NSH	200W type	130W UHE	200W SHP	155W DC	157W	200W
Lamp hours - standard/ eco	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	2,000/3,000	3,000/3,000	N/A/3,000
Fan noise - standard/eco	30dB/28dB	25dB/26dB	38dB/29dB	30dB/N/A	28dB/26dB	36dB/36dB	N/A/32dB
Dimensions (mm)/weight	265x198x52/ 2.3kg	262x216x94/ 2.9kg	402x294x114/ 3.6kg	249x327x106/ 3.5kg	187x337x113/ 3.0kg	295x238x78/ 2.8kg	298x275x101/ 2.9kg
Max. PC display resolution	1,280 by 1,024	1,280 by 1,024	1,024 by 768	1,024 by 768	1,400 by 1,050	1,024 by 768	1,280 by 1,024
INPUTS							
VGA/component video	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes
S-Video/composite video	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes
DVI-D/DVI-A	No/No	No/Yes	No/No	Yes/No	No/No	No/No	No/Yes
Replacement lamp cost	N/A	\$789	\$369	\$618	\$499	\$699	N/A
TEST RESULTS							
DVD/HDTV/PC quality	5.5/5.5/5.5	7/6.5/6	7/6.5/6	8.5/8.5/6	8/7/6	8.5/8.5/7.5	8.5/8.5/6

Free tools for your Web site

Angus Kidman discovers that adding extra resources to your business Web site can enhance its attractiveness to visitors — and you don't need to spend any money to do it.

One of the most commonly cited benefits of having a business Web presence is that you can potentially attract customers from anywhere in the world. An issue that many site creators fail to consider, however, is that the demands of visitors from overseas may be quite different. How will a US client react to prices quoted in Australian dollars? What happens if a potential buyer only speaks limited English? Despite the prevalence of English as a lingua franca online, the latter is becoming increasingly likely, with some estimates suggesting more than 60% of Net users now have a native language other than English.

While you can't solve all these problems on your own site, you can make use of existing resources available online to improve the visitor experience. Incorporating third-party tools such as

currency converters and language translators into your own pages demonstrates that you're serious about your online presence and are ready to treat all of your customers equally.

Both of the services we discuss below follow the same model: simply incorporate some HTML code to add the service to your pages. This doesn't require an extensive knowledge of Web design — indeed, unless you want to customise the appearance of the page, you can normally just paste it directly into the existing code for your site. There are normally some restrictions to customisation (such as including logos for the service provider), but these are rarely unreasonable. While these aren't the only providers in these fields, both are well-respected brands that will enhance rather than detract from your own site, and offer services that are of genuine use to visitors.

XE.com's full conversion service can easily be added to any existing site.



● Language translation

While AltaVista may have been overtaken by Google in the general search market, its translation facility remains a clear leader, with 36 different language-to-language conversions possible in its Babel Fish service (the name is derived from Douglas Adams's *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*). It should be noted that machine translation is still no substitute for a real live human translator, especially with longer blocks of text, but integrating polyglots directly into your site isn't going to be an option for a few years yet.

AltaVista actively encourages sites to use and incorporate its translation tools, and the code to do so can be freely downloaded. Two standard code options are offered: one allows the user to enter text or a URL and receive a translation; the other provides immediate conversion of the current page into a number of target languages. This latter option is probably more useful for business sites. From English, you can automatically convert pages into any of 12 target languages. Both options are incorporated as JavaScript rather than plain HTML, which

means they add minimal code weight to existing pages.

● Currency conversion

XE.com's Universal Currency Converter is one of the best-known online conversion tools, and boasts that it can handle virtually any currency in the world. XE offers a simple customisation service that allows you to incorporate the converter into your own pages, although it requires you to feature a banner ad in return. You can optionally pay US\$540 a year for the right to use the converter without the advertisement, but not many businesses are likely to need that option.

Sample code can be downloaded from the XE site, although you need to provide basic details of how you plan to use the service before adding it to your pages. You can also customise the appearance of the conversion service and even of the output pages if you wish; full details are provided on the site. ☐



RESOURCES

- ◆ **Currency conversion.** The signup form and customisation code for XE's Universal Currency Converter are available at www.xe.com/ucc/customize.htm.
- ◆ **Translation.** Code for a variety of translation boxes utilising AltaVista's Babel Fish can be found at www.altavista.com/help/free/free_searchbox_transl.html.



Video on demand

Darren Yates shows you how to set up a video streaming network in your home — and it costs less than \$100.

Wireless networking is beginning to take off as consumers and businesses alike see the benefits of being able to transfer files and access the Internet without wires. But if you ask me, that's a pretty ho-hum use of the technology.

Although people are beginning to use their wireless networks to stream or transmit their music collection, few seem to know it's possible to create your own video on demand (VOD) TV network. And you can do it for as little as \$100.

What you need

Your home entertainment system might be as elaborate as they come: a media centre PC connected to a six-channel surround sound system and plasma TV, or it could just be a notebook computer that sits on your bed at night. Regardless of

how you watch videos, the key to creating your own VOD network is the wireless connection between your video storage 'server' and the device you use to watch them.

At the most basic level, all you need is two wireless network cards: one for each device. Using two cards, you create an ad hoc network, which allows the two systems to communicate directly with each other. If you want three or four people to have access at the same time, you can create an infrastructure network, where each PC or streaming device has its own wireless network card and all are connected together via a wireless access point.

Everything else you need to stream video you either already have, or can find free on this month's cover discs.

What you can do

With a wireless network in place, it's not only possible to watch your favourite DVDs, but you can also stream your HDTV recordings from free-to-air TV, including everything from *Friday Night Football* to *Desperate Housewives*.

However, streaming video isn't a walk-up start for every PC, and to get it to work requires

ON THE COVER DISCS

You'll find all the software you need to stream movies on this month's cover discs, including:

- ◆ DivX 5.0.2 codec
- ◆ XviD 1.0.3 codec
- ◆ VirtualDub-MPEG2 1.5.10 video converter
- ◆ VirtualDubMod 1.5.10 video converter
- ◆ ffdshow multiformat decoder
- ◆ ProjectX HDTV/DVD demultiplexer
- ◆ TMPGEnc 2.5.24 freeware MPEG-1 encoder
- ◆ DGMPGDEC 1.30 MPEG-2 decoder
- ◆ LAME 3.93 MP3 encoder
- ◆ tooLame 0.2k MP2 encoder
- ◆ TMPGEnc PC User DVD-MPEG-1 streaming template (exclusive)
- ◆ VirtualDub PC User DVD-DivX encoding streaming template (exclusive)

It is illegal for us to provide any DVD ripping tools.

some fancy footwork through a reasonably sized minefield. For starters, commercial DVD movies cannot be streamed over a wireless network because of their CSS copy protection and even without that, the bit rate of most DVD movies is too high to go over some networks. When it comes to HDTV, most of those issues are multiplied five times, because higher bit rates and higher resolutions make it hard for even the fastest PCs to cope.

Fortunately, there are ways around these and we'll show you the best techniques that will get you results, regardless of your setup and network speed.

Wireless network basics

The type of wireless network you need comes under the umbrella term 'Wi-Fi'. There are two main types of wireless: 802.11b and 802.11g.

The 802.11b standard is the oldest and slowest, having a theoretical top speed of 11 megabits per second (Mbps), while the more recent 802.11g format cranks up the speed to 54Mbps. We say 'theoretical' because in reality, those figures are basically never attainable. In practice, you're doing well to get half those rates. You can also mix and match 802.11b and 802.11g equipment, but the speed will always be limited to that of the slowest device.

If you want help setting up a wireless network, check through our exclusive video tutorials on this month's cover discs and check out Nathan Taylor's story on maximising your wireless network speed (see page 82).

Variables and limitations

There are any number of limitations, from network speed to video bit rates, to processing horsepower and encoding efficiencies, which all have to be

TOP TIP

Only two PCs?

If you only have two PCs to network wirelessly and a limited distance to transmit, forget a wireless access point (AP) and just use an ad hoc network structure. It's the cheapest way to create your wireless network, enabling the PCs to talk directly to each other. What's more, it can double the data throughput over infrastructure wireless networks that use an AP. The downside is it gives you less range, but when it comes to speed, every bit helps.

factored in before you invite everyone over for a 'choose your own video' night.

Whether you wish to stream DVD or HDTV, there are three basic parts to the process: rip, encode and stream.

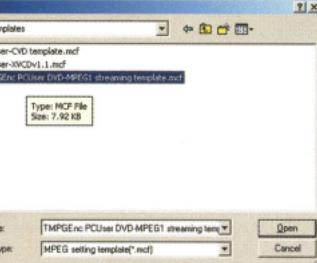
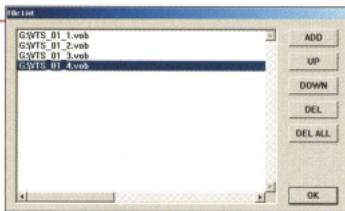
Streaming DVD video

The greatest limitation to streaming DVD video is CSS copy protection. It's common knowledge that there are plenty of tools on the Internet that allow you to bypass that protection and copy DVD movies to your PC, but doing so is illegal. And if you're caught selling copy-protected movies, chances are you'll be prosecuted. On the other hand, if you're streaming your own home DVD movies, that's not a problem.

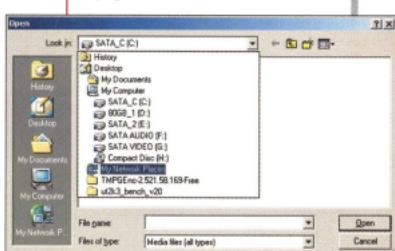
What is a problem is that DVD video generally has a bit rate that's too high to transmit over a wireless network, not to mention the fact that DVDs have a multiple and complex file structure. The next step is to convert those multi .vob files into a single, more efficient compression format or codec and, depending on the speed of your network and receiving computer/device, you have


STEP BY STEP **CONVERT DVDS TO MPEG-1 FORMAT**

1 Rip your DVD to your PC's hard drive using whatever tool works for you and then open DGMPGDEC (DGIndex). Holding the Shift key, select all of the movie-only .vob files, choose to demultiplex the audio to WAV format and click File → Save Project – Demux Video.



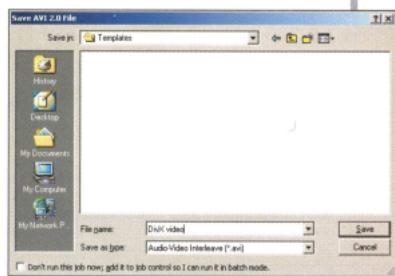
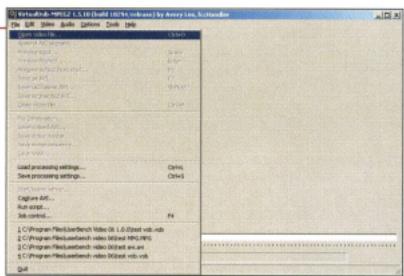
2 Start up TMPGEnc, click the 'Video Browse' button to load in the .m2v video file into the Video box, and then the 'Audio Browse' button to load in the .wav file into the Audio box. Choose an output filename and location, click the Load button to add in our exclusive *PC User* MPEG-1 streaming template and then click Start.



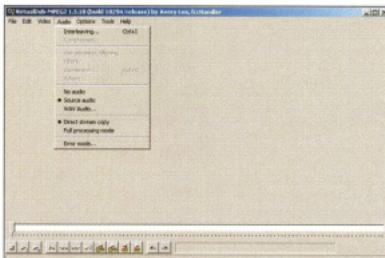
3 Open up your viewing PC's copy of Windows Explorer, search the network for the server PC, find the new .mpg movie file and double-click it. Windows Media Player will start on your PC and begin playing the movie.

CONVERT DVDS TO DIVX FORMAT

1 Follow step 1 from 'Convert DVDS to MPEG-1 format' above, then Start VirtualDub-MPEG-2 and load in the new .m2v file.



3 Click File → Save As AVI, choose a filename and location, and then click Save. Follow step 3 from 'Convert DVDS to MPEG-1 format' above, but look for the new .avi file instead.



2 Next, click 'Audio/WAV Audio'. Load in the .wav audio file created by DGMPGDEC and then load the exclusive *PC User* DVD-DivX streaming settings file by clicking File → Loading Processing Settings.



❶ three choices: the open source XviD, the now fully commercial DivX (both MPEG-4 codecs) and the now freeware MPEG-1.

In order of quality, you'd have to rank these as DivX, XviD and then MPEG-1, but there's an important reason not to discount MPEG-1 video compression. People give MPEG-1 a hard time for all the wrong reasons. Most people only know of MPEG-1 from VCD, a fairly limited and horrible video disc format. But that's the result of VCD's limitation, not MPEG-1's.

Last year in *PC User* (see the April 2004 issue, page 68), we showed you how you can dump three hours of VHS video onto a modified VCD called a KVCD. Minor tweaks to the KVCD format result in 100 minutes of DVD-quality widescreen video fitting on a 700MB CD-R disc. All using MPEG-1.

But the most important reason not to discount MPEG-1 is because it only requires the processing equivalent of the smell of an oily rag to decode. And since the receiving or viewing PC has to grab the data from the wireless network connection (as well as decode the video) and do it all without losing any frames, MPEG-1 is the ideal option for older (sub-1.5GHz) PCs.

XviD and DivX can give sharper results, but the significant downside to these codecs from a streaming point of view is that they need far more processing power to unravel and decode. In terms of speed, XviD is the worst offender, requiring more CPU horsepower than DivX for a given video stream. One excellent solution to try is fdshow (see 'Use fdshow for best performance' on page 81).

The good news is that regardless of the compression format you use, you only need an 802.11b wireless network to

stream DVD-resolution video. The even better news is that if you use MPEG-1 with a bit rate of around 1 to 1.5Mbps, it's possible to have two movies streaming at the same time, even on an 802.11b network.

❷ Streaming HDTV

As we said earlier, streaming HDTV can cause problems depending on the HDTV resolution you're working with. There are three possibilities for resolution: the basic 576p (equating to a 720 by 576-pixel frame size; the same as DVD), 720p (1,280 by 720 pixels) and 1,080i (1,920/1,440 by 1,080).

If the program is a 576p type, you can treat it the same as DVD, which has a 720 by 576-pixel resolution in Australian PAL format. However, if it's 720p resolution, your receiving PC will need a 2GHz or faster processor just to keep up with the required video processing. And if you're talking the top-drawer 1,080i HDTV standard, you'd better make sure your receiving PC has a CPU of at least 3GHz (or equivalent).

In any case, you'll have to re-encode the video first, before you do anything else. Depending on your HDTV tuner card, you may find your HDTV recording bit rates are as little as 13Mbps or as much as 25Mbps. Usually, the 25Mbps recordings not only include the HDTV signal, but also the SDTV video transmitted alongside it. The problem here is that even though you may only need the HDTV portion, the whole thing would still have to be transmitted across the network, wasting bandwidth at best, and at worst, dropping frames like there's no tomorrow. That's another good reason to re-encode before you stream.

So, if we're talking serious HDTV, the only two encoding options you have are XviD or

DivX. But despite XviD's open source status, we'd recommend going with DivX — specifically DivX 5.0.2, the last version before the DivX watermark came in. If you don't have it, we've included it on this month's cover discs.

MPEG-1 is fine for DVD, but it just doesn't have the legs to cope with HDTV beyond 576p. As you increase the resolution, you increase the number of pixels your PC has to decode per frame, and jumping from DVD to 1,080i HDTV gives a fivefold increase in resolution. That's enough to send most PCs (and MPEG-1) over the edge. In fact, contrary to popular belief, the issue with transmitting video over wireless networking isn't the networking bandwidth, it's more the PC processor's ability to grab, decode and display the data. As an example, we tried to stream 1,024 by 576 widescreen XviD-encoded 5Mbps HDTV video over an 108Mbps 802.11g network to a 2GHz Pentium 4-M notebook computer. It couldn't do it — the CPU usage was constantly at 100% and frames were dropping like flies.

We had more success with the same video encoded with DivX, but even so, the CPU usage percentage hovered in the mid-90s for most of the time. At that rate, you only need to hiccup to have everything go pear-shaped. By the same token, we had no problem streaming two MPEG-1 DVD streams over an 802.11b wireless network. For HDTV, the biggest issue is the processing horsepower at your disposal, not necessarily the speed of your wireless network.

One last important thing — when you convert the video to DivX, make sure you set the DivX codec to produce a key frame every 12 frames. If you don't, you won't be able to sync up the audio correctly later.

HDTV RESIZE TABLE

HDTV is transmitted in 16:9 anamorphic mode, which basically means the image is stretched vertically for transmission then shrunk by your DTV tuner card player software when played back to give better results. However, to encode it to DivX, you need to correct the frame size to account for it beforehand.

Use the following settings in VirtualDubMod:

- ◆ 576p: resize the video frame to 720 by 406 pixels
- ◆ 720p: resize the video frame to 1,280 by 720 pixels
- ◆ 1,080i: resize the video frame to 1,440 by 810 pixels. When you play the video in Windows Media Player, the aspect ratio will then be correct.

TOP TIP

Use LAME on TMPGEnc

If you're re-encoding the audio to MP2 under TMPGEnc, don't use the internal MP2 audio encoder, as it's pretty awful. Go to Options → Environmental Setting → Audio Engine and use toolame for MP2 encoding and lame for MP3 encoding. Install these from this month's cover discs first, then simply start up TMPGEnc, choose to use an external encoder in each option and point to the .exe file with the browse buttons. The 0.2k version of toolame we've included works best with TMPGEnc.

❸ Streaming VCD/KVCD/SCD/analog TV

When it comes to video of smaller frame sizes than typical DVD, you can start making use of older PCs to stream these formats. Basic VCD with its 352 by 288-pixel PAL format and MPEG-1 video compression should even be viewable on a Wi-Fi-enabled Pocket PC PDA.

We were able to stream DVD-resolution MPEG-1 to our 2GHz Pentium 4-M notebook running on the battery at just 1.2GHz with no dropped frames. We suspect it will work with a Pentium-III notebook, even on an 802.11b network.

If you've captured analog free-to-air TV, treat it the same as DVD in terms of your encoding options.

❹ The server

While much of our discussion has revolved around the network and the decoding PC processing speed, the horsepower of the server and speed of the storage drives starts becoming an issue if you're streaming multiple video files at the same time.

Given that a Super G (108Mbps) wireless infrastructure network can support a high number of connections (some say as high as 25), you need to ensure your server has sufficient horsepower to keep up the processing of those streams to its wireless



Extending your wireless network

Nathan Taylor explains the steps you can take to boost your wireless network.

It's the perennial problem with wireless networks. Bad reception and congested airwaves often result in the wireless network being far from everything it could be. This is particularly important in the new era of home media networks – it's no fun, when you're streaming a movie over your wireless network, to have your network connection drop out for a few seconds while the wireless connection retransmits.

Getting good reception around the home is the key to good wireless performance. If you have strong signal quality, drop-outs will be minimal and the overall performance of your network will increase. At *PC User*, we've compiled a few tips to help you achieve that.

Getting the position right

The simplest way to get better reception for your wireless devices is to move your access point to a more central location. It may seem like an obvious point, but it's surprising how many people unthinkingly locate the wireless access point in a discreet corner of the study, rather than in a point in the middle of the home or office.

The router should not sit on the floor or next to metal objects, especially those inclined to radiate electromagnetic interference (such as PCs). It's a good idea to avoid metal filing cabinets, whitegoods, PC cases and anything else that will interfere with the wireless signal from the access point.

As an aside, using an antenna extension cable allows you to put your point of reception in a more convenient position, even if you cannot move your access point. Most antennas supplied with access points do not have any kind of stand, however, and some are non-removable.

Minimising interference

Of course, moving the access point around is not always convenient or desirable, so there are a number of other things you can do to reduce the interference in your home or office. Unfortunately for wireless users, a lot of home appliances use the 2.4GHz band, which is the same radio spectrum used by 802.11b and 802.11g. Most commonly, you're likely to notice a drop in signal quality when somebody in the house is using the cordless phone, or when the microwave is switched on.

There's not a lot that can be done about it, but if you have the opportunity to plan ahead, you should look for home appliances that do not operate in the 2.4GHz band. Some cordless phones operate in the 900MHz or other bands – these are a better option if you're planning to use Wi-Fi, since they won't compete with the wireless devices for space on the airwaves.

The other thing you can experiment with is the signal band you use. When you set up your wireless access point and network cards, you're given a choice between a range of wireless channels. People often just leave the channel on the default (usually channel 1), but it's worth trying out the different channels available, which might work around some devices that



On the left, the D-Link DWL-G600T, an omnidirectional antenna; on the right, the D-Link ANT24-0600, a directional antenna.

cause interference, and can also solve problems that arise when wireless networks overlap (perhaps your neighbour also has Wi-Fi set up).

A new antenna

If you're really having problems, one of the best solutions is to get a new antenna for your access point.

Not all access points support replacement antennas. Older access points often have a fixed antenna, but most newer ones will support replacement antennas.

Antennas that come with access points are designed to be omnidirectional; that is, they can receive radio waves equally from any direction. You can buy external omnidirectional antennas that, according to the vendors, have optimum reception and range. Much like TV aerials, however, buying these can be a bit of a lottery – they may solve your problem; they may do nothing at all.

Omnidirectional antennas (and, for that matter, directional antennas) have a 'gain' rating, measured in dB (decibels over isotropic). dB is actually a fairly abstract measurement, a comparison of the antenna's reception to a theoretical isotropic antenna, rated on the logarithmic scale of decibels. An antenna with a dB of four or more will more than adequately

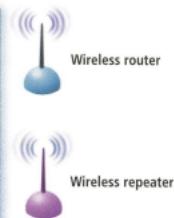
serve most home users. Vendors of access points and expansion cards often won't tell you what kind of antenna comes with the device, but it's usually in the one or two dB range.

Low-end indoor antennas can cost \$30 to \$50 for devices in the four to six dB range. At the top end of the product spectrum, 15 dB outdoor antennas can set you back more than \$300.

A potentially better solution than the omnidirectional antenna, especially if you have the access point located in a corner of the house, or external to the house, is to use a hi-gain directional antenna. Available in either flat-panel or parabolic forms (the latter is typically used for very long-range communications; the former more likely to be mounted on walls in-home), directional antennas cover only a specified area. They have a vertical and horizontal beam width rating, measured in degrees, which specifies the maximum angle at which they can receive wireless signals. Putting one of these in the corner of the home or outside can effectively cover the entire home, although you may find there are 'black spots' if the antenna does not have wide enough reception. Moving the antenna around, like you'd do with a TV antenna, may improve your reception.



USING REPEATERS



Using a wireless repeater can effectively increase the coverage of your wireless network.

Directional antennas have the advantage of high gain, excellent reception and the ability to effectively filter out neighbouring and competing Wi-Fi networks. They can be tricky to get right though, and some planning needs to be done to make sure that the cone of reception for the aerial covers all the areas in which you might want to access your wireless network.

One other thing you can try, if your client PC is a notebook, is to use a USB Wi-Fi card instead of a PC Card. Wi-Fi PC Cards tend to have very small antennas with poor transmission and reception range. External USB devices, while less convenient, often have far better transmission characteristics.

Adding access points or repeaters

If you're prepared to spend the money to do so, creating another wireless network is a very simple way of increasing the coverage of your wireless LAN. Adding another access point and linking the two using Ethernet cables connected to a switch is a very simple solution that will provide broad coverage across a large home or office.

However, it's not always

convenient to string Ethernet cable between access points. For the majority of homes that are not wired with Ethernet, there is another emerging solution that may do the trick. A new category of device, the powerline or HomePlug access point, uses the home electrical wiring in lieu of Ethernet to transmit data. The Siemens SpeedStream line of products includes powerline access points, but we have yet to see these products appear in stores in Australia.

As an alternative to running

multiple wireless networks, you can try using a wireless repeater to extend the range of your wireless network.

An increasing number of access points come with the ability to be used as wireless repeaters. A repeater regenerates a wireless network signal, so if you put repeaters every fifty feet or so, you can theoretically extend the wireless network indefinitely. We say theoretically, because using repeaters actually reduces the network's performance. A repeater takes wireless network

information and retransmits it, doubling the number of wireless network packets crossing the airwaves. For this reason, use repeaters sparingly.

D-Link, Cisco, Linksys, ViewSonic, Buffalo Technology and several other vendors offer access points that can be configured to go into repeater mode. For any device set into repeater mode, you need to set the SSID of the repeater to match that of the base repeater, and will usually have to specify the target access point by its unique MAC address. ☺

ADVANTAGES OF 802.11a

If range and reception are an issue for you, one solution is to try 802.11a in lieu of 802.11g. With its backward compatibility to 802.11b (the original 'Wi-Fi'), 802.11g has emerged as the de facto standard for high-speed wireless communications. But the rarer 802.11a has its appeals.

802.11g uses the same 2.4GHz spectrum as 802.11b. The 2.4GHz band, known as the ISM (Industrial, Scientific, Medical) band, is also used by a number of home appliances such as cordless phones and wireless input devices. These devices can cause interference with wireless networks operating in the ISM band (and you may not have such devices, but your neighbours might).

On the other hand, 802.11a uses the 5GHz band, which is not currently used by any other category of device. It can transmit at the same speeds as 802.11g, and even has a similar 'turbo' mode that

delivers a theoretical 108Mbps.

In terms of interference, the scarcity of 802.11a has another advantage: not many other people use it. If you live in an apartment block or work in a high-density area, you'll probably be familiar with the problem of overlapping wireless networks. In a single zone, you might find five or even more users operating separate wireless networks.

You're competing with those wireless networks for space on the airwaves. Since far fewer people use 802.11a, there's less competition in the band.

You won't find many devices that are exclusively 802.11a, but there are a considerable number of tri-band (802.11b/a/g) devices available. These devices can be switched to support either 802.11g or 802.11a, but cost quite a bit more than pure 802.11g devices — sometimes as much as triple.



Make a ripping and encoding app

Darren Yates explains how to build the first part of our new ripping and burning application.

As a software user, there's one thing that I find constantly frustrating: as soon as I get used to using a handy piece of software, the next version comes along and makes a whole lot of changes, and the new version doesn't work as well as the old one. Even worse is when the program is sold off or taken over by another company and quietly canned.

The good news is that you don't have to put up with this. Armed with a suitable freeware development tool, such as Rapid-Q BASIC, and some well-chosen open source command line apps, it's actually quite easy to develop your own tools and get them to run just the way you like them. That's precisely what we've done. We've put together the *PC User* Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005 (R&B Toolbox), a kit that gives you all the software you need to start creating your own applications. The R&B Toolbox, which we think is the first application of its type by an Australian PC magazine, will consist of five sections: ripping and encoding audio CDs, data file archiving, CD/DVD copying, video encoding and general CD/DVD burning. This month, we start with the audio ripping and encoding.

Linux to the rescue

Last month, when we first discussed the R&B Toolbox, we mentioned that the trick with our Toolbox is that we'll be using Linux apps. The Windows world isn't flush with command line CD ripping tools that actually work, so we had to turn

ON THE COVER DISCS

You'll find this first section of the *PC User* Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005 on this month's cover discs. It will run on any operating system from Windows 98 to XP Professional, but the faster your PC's processor, the faster the application will run. You'll also find our special *PC User* edition of Rapid-Q BASIC for you to play with.

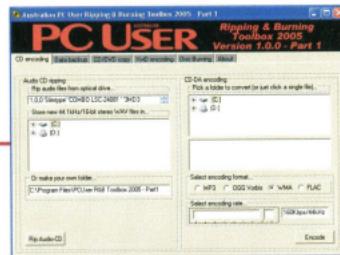
to Linux's cdtools (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/cdrecord>) collection for help. As part of this kit, there's a very handy little tool called cdda2wav, a command line app that rips audio CDs to perfect 44.1kHz/16-bit stereo WAV files.

Some of you will surely be wondering, 'So how exactly do you run Linux apps under Windows?' The trick is to use a version of cdtools that's been compiled to run on Windows instead of Linux.

Don't be confused — it's still Linux code, but it works via a compiled translation layer tool (or emulator) called Cygwin. Like most Linux tools, the Cygwin dynamic linked library (DLL) is covered under the GNU General Public License (GPL). In a nutshell, it means you can use it for commercial or non-commercial use, provided you acknowledge the copyright owners and make the source code for your application available. You can get more info on the GNU GPL from www.gnu.org/copyleft/gpl.html.

However, since we're using Cygwin only to activate

You'll find the first part of our *PC User* Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005 program on this month's cover discs.



precompiled Linux apps and since our Toolbox tool doesn't call Cygwin directly, we don't need to release the source code for our tool, only the source code for Cygwin, the Linux and other command line apps we use. The fact that we're giving away the software for free shouldn't hurt either.

Ripping CDs

Using cdda2wav (and most other Linux tools) creates its own little headache, in that it doesn't recognise Windows' normal drive letter allocation. Instead, you have to access drives by using their device handle, a three-digit number separated by commas. The numbers represent the SCSI bus, target and LUN (logical unit number) of each drive. A typical example would be '1,1,0'.

Why does Linux see IDE, USB and Serial ATA drives as pseudo-SCSI devices? Most likely it's a throwback to its Unix roots, although *why* it does this isn't as important as *how* it does this. Normally, Windows translates this information to a drive letter for you without disclosing its ID; the way we

work around this is that as R&B Toolbox starts up, it runs the command `cdda2wav -scansbus > drives.txt`. What this does is tell cdda2wav to scan the system for all of the drives connected — hard drives, USB drives and optical drives — and dumps all of that info using the old DOS redirect output option `>` to a text file called `drives.txt`.

Our tool then opens that text file line by line, looking for any entry that has the text 'removable CD-ROM'. It then searches that line of text for the device handle and adds it and the drive name to the dropdown list of CD drives you can use. It's not that pretty, but it works like a Swiss watch.

Encoding GUI

When the application appears on the screen, you'll see a series of labelled tabs and the CD ripping/encoding option ready to go.

Most of the tabs don't do anything yet, but the first screen here is split into two sections: CD ripping on the left and encoding on the right.

One thing to remember

LICENSE AGREEMENT

The *PC User* Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005 is free exclusively to *PC User* readers.

It is to be used for non-commercial, legal applications only, and must not be distributed in any other form without the prior written consent of *PC User* or the author. It is supplied as is with no warranty whatsoever — use it at your own risk.

Note: all source code for the *PC User* Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005 is copyright Darren Yates. Command line tools used in this app are copyrighted by their various owners.



when writing your own software is that a clean graphics user interface (GUI) design is just as important as functionality. Looking at other programs to see how they do things is a great way to learn — just look for tools you find easy to operate and ask yourself why this is so.

Looking at the CD ripping tool, the first thing you do is select which of the available drives you wish to rip the audio CD with. You then choose your own folder location or our default option for where you'd like your soon-to-be created .wav files, and then all of that gets added to the text string of command line switches to be executed by Rapid-Q BASIC's **SHELL** command.

Once you've selected the audio CD drive and the place to dump the .wav files, just hit the 'Rip CD' button and you're away.

EncodingException CDs

Ripping audio CDs is one example of where we use Linux in this application. When it comes to re-encoding these ripped files, there's a swag of freeware or open source Windows command line apps ripe for the picking. Our tool gives you four encoding options based on such apps: MP3, Ogg Vorbis, FLAC and WMA.

The MP3 encoding is based on the very good LAME 3.96.1 command line encoder (as used in about 1,001 other free MP3 encoders). Ogg Vorbis encoding uses the OggEnc command line engine (from www.vorbis.com) and I included the open source lossless encoding tool FLAC from (<http://flac.sourceforge.net>) because I'm a snob when it comes to audio encoding.

The WMA encoding is done through Microsoft's own **wmbeutil** app, which can be downloaded from a number of places on the Web. Although it's also capable of encoding WMV video, we use it to encode our .wav audio files to WMA 8 ones, which is compatible with all WMA-supported DVD players, PDAs and portable music players (except the iPod).

To make our tool easier to use, we've incorporated a simple bit rate sidebar that changes the bit rate as you pull it across. The bit rate options also change automatically as you select different encoding formats. Since FLAC doesn't support bit rates, it's greyed out here. As you'll see when you try it, we've given you a pretty wide range of bit rates to choose from, which should be more than enough to cover any need.

As an extra feature, each encoded file has the codec and bit rate appended to its filename. For example, **track1.wav** encoded in MP3 at 128Kbps becomes **track1(mp3_128k).mp3**; **track2.wav** encoded in WMA at 128Kbps becomes **track2(wma_128k).wma** and so on. Not only does it make identification easier, but it also allows you to audition different bit rates and codecs to see which of these settings you prefer. You can always rename these later if you wish.

Next month

As part of our storage guide for next month, the next version of R&B Toolbox adds file archiving capabilities. It uses a freeware command line tool that creates WinZip-compatible compressed files. See you then. ☺

ABOUT THE COMMAND LINE APPS

Each month, we'll take a look at the real stars behind our Ripping & Burning Toolbox 2005 app and how they work. This month, we look at the first five important tools and the basics of how they work.

cdda2wav

Example usage: `cdda2wav -D <drive_spec> -d 0 -H -B <outfolder>`

cdda2wav is a CD digital audio ripper that works happily under Windows with the Cygwin library, provided you give it the correct drive device number (`<drive_spec>`). The drive device number will look something like **1,1,0**, but is determined by your drive selection. The **-d 0** switch tells the tool to rip the whole of each track, while **-H** tells it not to write any info or cddb (CD database) files, and the **-B** switch tells it to copy each track to a separate file. For more details, see <http://cdrecord.berlios.de/old/private/cdrecord.html>.

OggEnc

Example usage: `oggenc -q <quality_setting> <infile> -o <outfile>`

OggEnc is very easy to use, with the **-q** switch setting the quality of the encode from **0** (bleach!) to **9** (bliss), while **-o** sets the output filename. Choosing a quality setting of **6** gives great results. For more details, see www.vorbis.com.

LAME

Example usage: `lame -h -b <bit_rate> <infile> <outfile>`

LAME has a truckload of options, but we're just sticking to the basics

here. The **-h** switch tells LAME to use a high-quality (level 2) encoding algorithm, a good compromise between quality (**0**) and speed (**9**), leaning towards quality. The **-b** switch sets the bit rate, which in this case is constant (CBR) rather than variable (VBR). For more details, see www.mp3dev.org.

wmbeutil

Example usage: `wmbeutil -input <infile> -output <outfile> -a_setting <bit_rate>`

This Microsoft command line tool encodes not only audio, but video as well. However, for our purposes, we're only using it as an audio encoder. The **-a_setting** switch sets the encoding bit rate. Our slider control sets it to between 32Kbps and 192Kbps, although you'll find 128Kbps is excellent. For more details, see <http://tinyurl.com/9u8ch>.

FLAC

Example usage: `flac <infile> -o <outfile>`

FLAC is simple to use and requires no encoding rate parameters. Just give it an input file and the **-o** switch marks the output file; it's that easy. Even in this basic mode, it turns out lossless audio that would be good enough to archive. Compression is upwards of 50% depending on the input file. Check out the FLAC Web site for Winamp plug-ins and tools to convert FLAC files back to WAV format. For more details, see <http://flac.sourceforge.net>.

By careful use of string variables and Rapid-Q's **SHELL** command, we manipulate and operate these tools from within our application.



Make MASSIVE Savings On Your Phone Bills!

 **engin**
The Broadband Phone Company
www.engin.com.au Hotline: 1300 305 000



Tune in to podcasting

Radio on demand, via the Internet? Rose Vines shows you how podcasting works.

ON THE COVER DISCS

On this month's cover discs, you'll find Doppler Radio 2.0, FeedDemon 1.5, iPodder 2.1 and iTunes 4.9.

Each morning, Dave Winer talks to me about his thoughts on blogs, RSS news feeds and programming in general. As one of the prime movers in the development of blogging and its offshoots, Dave's well worth listening to.

Dave talks to me and thousands of others via his podcast, Morning Coffee Notes. It's a very personal take on technology. Listening to Dave, I'm struck by the Internet's knack for transferring the tools of the few into the hands of the many. Podcasting is the latest example of this phenomenon.

What is podcasting?

Podcasting is radio on demand. It is personal audio books and personalised TV. It's mass media in miniature. Podcasting is many things, but one thing it is *not* is an Apple iPod technology. If you've heard the term floating around and thought it was mainly pure for the Mac crowd, think again.

Podcasting takes audio or video Web content and delivers it to your desktop or portable media player — so anyone who has a Net connection and can play MP3s can listen to podcasts. What distinguishes podcasting from other types of

streaming media is that it is a subscription service: once you subscribe to a podcast, your podcast software automatically downloads new 'episodes' as they become available, and then syncs that content with your media player.

Podcasting is something like a multimedia version of RSS news feeds. A podcast is a multimedia file inside an RSS wrapper.

As the meeting point for audio blogging and RSS, podcasting delivers Weblogs to new audiences and — via an iPod, iRiver or other portable media player — onto the road.

Podcasting has two huge advantages over text-based blogging. First, it's supremely personal; a text-based blog has nothing on hearing someone speak their thoughts. Second, it's non-visual (unless, of course, it's a video podcast you're watching). It provides a break from the stream of stuff you have to read; instead, you can give your eyes a rest, sit back and listen. If you commute to work, just sync the podcasts with your media player and you have your own radio station, filled with news, commentary and entertainment, to while away the journey.

Podcasting is such a powerful tool that it has been adopted by mass media organisations as well as individual bloggers. Radio National, Triple J and SBS, among others, are all podcasting locally. In the UK, the BBC, known for being quick on the uptake of new technologies, is podcasting

many of its shows. Lance Armstrong and his team made daily podcasts during his attempt to secure a seventh Tour de France win. Governor Arnold 'The Terminator' Schwarzenegger podcasts regularly to his constituents. St Mark's Church in Clayfield, Queensland, podcasts Sunday evening talks.

Tuning in

Subscribing to podcasts is easy. All you need is:

- ◆ A computer with sound card and speakers
- ◆ A high-speed Internet connection
- ◆ A media player
- ◆ A podcatcher
- ◆ A portable media player, if you want to take your podcasts on the road

You're almost sure to have everything on that list except the podcatcher. For your media player, Windows Media Player (WMP) will do just as well as iTunes; with a little fiddling around, you can also use alternatives such as Winamp.

In essence, the podcatcher is an RSS feed reader with support for 'enclosures'. Many classic feed readers are now adding podcast support. FeedDemon, for example, provides excellent support for podcasts in its latest version. Apple added podcasting support to its media player, iTunes, in version 4.9. Alternatively, you can take your pick from a bunch of purpose-built podcatchers, including iPodder, Doppler Radio and Primetime Podcast Receiver. We've included a selection of these podcatchers on this

month's cover discs.

Which to choose? Doppler provides the best integration with WMP, but sometimes has trouble accessing feeds. The iTunes podcast support is neatly done, but iTunes doesn't always play nicely with other media software on Windows, so we don't recommend it unless you're already an iTunes user. Probably the best option is iPodder. Its WMP integration could be better and it displays podcast notes (a text summary of the podcast's contents) in a separate browser window instead of within the podcatcher itself, but in most other ways it's the podcatcher to beat. It's free, it includes a good directory of podcasts, and it's a delight to use. And, as you'll discover, with a little fast footwork you can make it work hand-in-glove with WMP.

Using iPodder

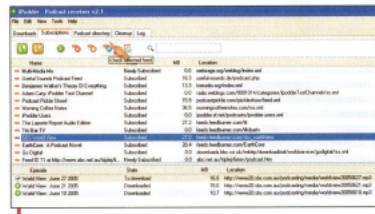
To discover how easy it is to join the podcasting flock, here's how to add your first podcast using iPodder.

1 **Install iPodder and open the program.** iPodder inserts a little lemon icon in your system tray, which you can right-click to open the program at full screen. During the iPodder installation, you'll be prompted to choose a folder in which to store your podcasts. We recommend you create a folder within My Music called Podcasts. WMP monitors all subfolders within My Music, so this will help sync your podcasts with your media player.

2 **In the main iPodder window,** click the 'Podcast Directory'

LISTEN TO THIS ARTICLE

I've created a podcast of this article, so instead of reading it, you can listen to it. To do so, add the following podcast to your podcatcher: [www.geekgirls.com/audio/podpeople.rss](http://geekgirls.com/audio/podpeople.rss).

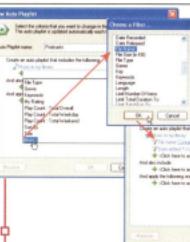
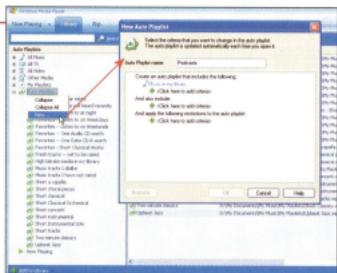


Once subscribed to a podcast, you can select and download episodes.

**STEP BY STEP SYNCHRONISE WITH IPODDER AND WMP**

iPodder adds your podcasts to Windows Media Player, but this doesn't work as effectively as it should. Here's a workaround that will let you create a podcast Auto Playlist and synchronise that playlist with your portable media player.

1 In WMP, open the Library, right-click 'Auto Playlist' and select New from the pop-up menu. The 'New Auto Playlist' dialog will be displayed. Type **Podcasts** in the 'Auto Playlist Name' box.

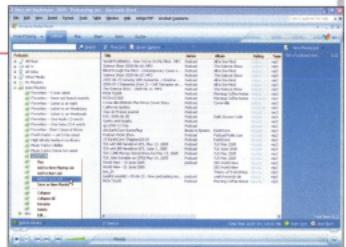


2 In the 'Music In My Library' section, click the + icon, choose More from the drop-down list and then select 'File Name' and click OK. Type in the name of your Podcast folder (or open the Podcasts folder and then simply copy and paste the pathname from the folder's Address bar).

4 To set this Auto Playlist to synchronise with your portable media player, right-click the Podcasts playlist and select 'Add To Sync List' from the pop-up menu.



3 That's all you need to do to add your podcast to a WMP Auto Playlist automatically. But if you want to sync them with a portable media player, you'll need to limit the number of episodes you sync, or things will soon get out of hand. So, while still in the 'New Auto Playlist' dialog, in the 'Music In My Library' section, add an additional criterion by clicking 'Click Here To Add Criteria', select 'Date Added To Library' and set the 'Is After' period to Yesterday. Then click OK.



tab. This is a great place to start if you don't know where to find podcasts for yourself. To see the contents of a folder in the directory, first click the folder itself. This will download the currently available podcasts in that category. Once you've done that, click the + sign beside the folder to view its contents.

3 Click a podcast's name and then click the Add button.

4 In the 'Add A Feed' dialog, make sure the 'Go To Subscriptions Tab To See This Feed's Episodes' box is ticked and then click Save. The feed will be added to your subscriptions list. You'll see it on the Subscriptions tab, with its episodes listed below.

5 You can download a single episode or as many episodes

as you like. Just tick the box of each episode you want, and then click the 'Check Selected Feed' button in the toolbar. The Downloads tab will appear, showing the download progress.

6 To play a downloaded episode, click the Play button to the left of the episode, or right-click the episode (either in the Downloads tab or the Subscriptions tab) and select 'Play Episode In Media Player'.

If you already have the URL of a podcast, you can add the podcast to iPodder manually:

1 In the main iPodder window, click the Subscriptions tab.

2 Click the 'Add New Feed' icon and copy and paste, or type in the URL. iPodder automatically adds the title of the podcast and checks for new episodes.

Now follow steps 5 and 6 above to download the feed.

Scheduling

Most podcasters produce new episodes on a regular basis. To keep up to date, set your podcatcher to download episodes automatically. In iPodder, select Tools —>

Scheduler, tick the 'Enable Scheduler' button and select a schedule from the options. If you have trouble accessing certain podcasts — some of the popular ones get inundated with download requests — use the 'Check At Regular Intervals' option and repeat every two to four hours.

Podcasts	Podcasting directories	Podcatchers
ABC Radio National www.abc.net.au/rn/podcast	Podcast.net www.podcast.net	Doppler Radio www.doppleradio.net
Dave Winer's Morning Coffee www.morningcoffeeletters.com/rss.xml	Podcast Directory www.podcastdirectory.com	FeedDemon www.feeddemon.com
Tour de France podcasts http://feeds.feedburner.com/sirius_tdf_armstrong	PodNova www.podnova.com	iPodder www.ipodder.org
SBS Podcasting www.20.sbs.com.au/podcasting	Podcast Picket www.podcastpicket.com	iTunes www.itunes.com
Triple J www.abc.net.au/triplej/listen/podcast.htm	Podcasting News www.podcastingsnews.com	Primetime Podcast Receiver www.primetimepodcast.com/blog



DIY Xbox media station

Unleash the Xbox's hidden power by turning it into a Linux-based media centre. Matthew Overington explains how.

With the release of the Xbox 360 imminent, time is running out to buy the original Xbox. Why would you want to? Well, it's likely the 360 won't be anywhere near as customisable as the original, so you probably won't be able to do what we've done here with a version one Xbox: to build what we consider the best-value media centre system available. This technique does involve opening up your Xbox, it will void your warranty and you may not be able to play Xbox games on it any more. However, it's sure better than throwing away your Xbox when it comes time to buy a 360, and it really isn't that difficult.

The key to unlocking the multimedia power of your Xbox is installing a mod chip. A mod chip allows you to take advantage of the standard PC lurking beneath the consumer-friendly console cover. Although modifying (modding) an Xbox

can allow you to play illegally backed up games, it also opens up the machine to function as a hub for music, DVD and video playback. (This upgrade will categorically *not* allow you to play illegal games on your Xbox.) By default, the Xbox ships with security measures to prevent unsigned software from running on the platform. This means that only Microsoft-licensed software will run. A mod chip opens up the system to be able to run unsigned code as well, meaning it can run homebrew applications or copied software. In the case of this guide, we're going to be running Linux-based media centre software.

Generally, upgrading your Xbox will include the following steps: installing a mod chip; flashing the mod chip BIOS; swapping the hard disk; installing a new Dashboard (sort of an operating system for the Xbox); and finally, installing software. Be warned, though: it will void your warranty and Microsoft can block you from accessing the Xbox Live service if you attempt to go online with a mod chip installed.

Is it legal?

The use of mod chips falls into a legal grey area. What is most certainly illegal is the development and distribution

Many mod chips ship with USB adaptors that allow you to connect keyboards and mice directly to your Xbox.



of software based on Microsoft's non-public Xbox compiler (part of the Xbox Development Kit, or XDK) and mod chip kits that allow users to play pirated games. However, you can find mod chip kits and unofficial Xbox software that do not make the above breaches, thanks to an open source developer's kit called OpenXDK (www.openxdk.org). This developer's kit has spawned a number of alternative Xbox applications, including the ability to turn the system into a Linux-based media centre. Note that by performing this modification and going down the open source route, you probably won't be able to play games on your Xbox anymore. It is possible to set your Xbox to dual-boot with a number of BIOSes, providing the ability to run original games and open source software on the one machine, but that won't specifically be covered in this guide, and usually differs slightly depending on your mod chip. For more information on dual-booting your machine, see your mod chip instructions, or go to www.xbox-scene.com.

How to check your Xbox version

Before you begin, it pays to

CAUTION!

Before launching into modifying your Xbox to run Linux, bear in mind that your warranty will be rendered void as soon as you open the case. This may not be a concern to you, but some of you may want to think twice before hacking your consoles. What's more, Microsoft can detect modified Xboxes when they go online, and the company will bar any Xbox accessing the Xbox Live service with a mod chip installed. Some more expensive mod chips feature switches to disable them for use with Live, but don't say we didn't warn you. PC User cannot be held liable for any damage your console may suffer from modifying it.



STEP BY STEP OPEN YOUR XBOX

1 Start out by removing the six T-20 Torx screws that hold the entire system together. Two of the screws are located under the stickers in the centre of the base: one in the serial number box, and the other in the information box with the title, 'Xbox Video Game System'. The other four are positioned under the four rubber feet in the corners of the base.



2 After extracting the screws, turn the Xbox over again and lift the cover off. This will expose the optical and hard disk drives, which can then be removed using a T-10 Torx screwdriver. The plastic frame supporting the IDE drives is in two parts, and the hard disk component should come out first. You'll have to disconnect the IDE and power cables from the hard disk before attempting to pull out the plastic tray supporting it.



3 The third step is to remove the DVD-ROM drive from the case by removing the two Torx bolts that support its caddy. Be careful to disconnect every cable from the board before you pull it out, paying close attention to the small yellow power cable at the rear of the drive. The yellow cable is particular to the Xbox, so make sure you don't damage it.



4 After the drives are removed, you're free to install your mod chip. Your mod chip will either ship with detailed installation instructions, or they will be available on the manufacturer's Web site. The Xenium SPICE installation manual found at www.teamxodus.com is particularly comprehensive, and we recommend that you opt for this chip, as it will make your life easier.

models feature the 5530 K value, and all were manufactured in August 2003 (the manufacture date is printed on the underside of your Xbox). All version 1.6 models feature a K value of 5838 or higher.

The only sure-fire method is to actually dismantle the Xbox and check the motherboard directly, so prepare to farewell that warranty. Before you open the case, make sure you're working in a clean, static-free environment, and you're wearing an antistatic strap. Be

sure to unplug the Xbox from mains power before you begin working. Follow the steps outlined in the step-by-step guide above to open any version of Xbox, or check the guide at www.xbox-scene.com/articles/open1.php.

After you've exposed the Xbox motherboard, head over to www.xbox-scene.com/versions.php for details on how to tell the models apart. You'll need to use a multimeter to accurately tell a 1.4 from a 1.5 model, but information on

how this works can be found in the online tutorial.

Buying your mod chip

After sussing out what version Xbox you have, the next step is to buy your mod chip. There are countless online stores selling the chips, but we recommend getting a solderless kit, as it will make life easier for anyone worried about damaging the Xbox motherboard. One model we recommend is the Xenium SPICE, which is available from most online mod chip stores,

ON THE COVER DISCS

You'll find the following: Gentoxx Media Center 1.3 ISO (exclusive to the DVD), Cromwell Linux BIOS 2.40, Xbox Identifier 1.0, WinRAR 3.42 (30-day trial), SmartFTP 1.1 and DeepBurner Free 1.6.

including www.divineo.com and www.xbox-modchips.com. It suits all versions of Xbox from 1.0 to 1.6b and features a quick and painless installation procedure. It's more 



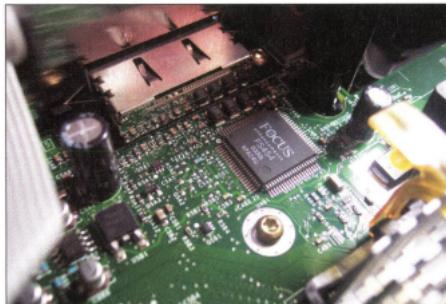
expensive than some of the plain Jane models, but it's a snap to install, and it comes with some handy extras, including a USB adaptor.

Alternatively, another option is to buy a pre-modded system. This is generally more expensive than buying the chip and installing it yourself, as you've got to pay for labour and the added shipping weight of a full system over a chip. You'll still have to install and configure Linux before the system will be fully operational, but you can generally find pre-modded systems with a chip and the Cromwell Linux BIOS installed. Pre-modded systems provide peace of mind, though, and some online shops even provide a warranty on these systems.

Installing the mod chip

The exact procedure for installing your mod chip will depend on the brand and model that you've selected. We strongly recommend that you opt for a mod chip that suits several different Xbox models, as it will simplify things if you've inaccurately detected which version you've got.

Installation is generally quite



The video chip on your motherboard is a hint to which version your Xbox is.

simple and in fact, the hardest part is often removing the case screws and accessing the motherboard in the first place. In the case of the Xenium SPICE chip, it's necessary to locate a region on the motherboard, screw in a pin socket and attach the chip to the top of the socket. The mod chip can be installed in about 10 minutes. From here, the Xbox can be booted, BIOS information backed up, and the new Dashboard or OS installed. Versions that require solder attachments will take a little longer (and a little more care will be needed), but they can usually be completed inside an hour.

At this point, before you put the Xbox back together again, it's a good idea to install a larger hard disk. You'll need to do it to run the Linux-based media centre software, and it allows you to store more media locally. Follow the steps outlined in the step-by-step guide on page 92 to upgrade your hard disk. After installing a new drive and replacing the console cover, you're ready to move onto the software phase. It's the software that really unleashes the power of the system. But before you start flashing the BIOS and adding extra tools, you'll need a way to communicate with the system.

Connecting a keyboard and mouse

In order to help navigate Linux, it's crucial to fit a USB keyboard and mouse to your Xbox console. Many mod chips

(including the Xenium) ship with a small USB adaptor that you can attach to an Xbox controller port, which converts it into a standard USB connector. This enables you to attach a USB hub and use a mouse and keyboard simultaneously. Alternatively, if you don't mind a bit of cable splicing, you can also follow the instructions found at <http://tinyurl.com/5osqe> to splice a pair of USB ports into the cable of a standard Xbox controller. Although the splicing method has the benefit of allowing the controller to be used along with a keyboard and mouse, it's a little inelegant. It's far easier just to rely on the adaptor shipped with your mod chip.

Installing the Cromwell Linux BIOS

The current version of the Cromwell Linux BIOS is 2.40, and can be found online at www.xbox-linux.org or on this month's cover discs. Installing the BIOS is straightforward. Most Xbox mod chips come with a basic OS preinstalled, which allows you to add extra BIOS configurations to the mod chip's internal memory. A list of available BIOSes is presented when the machine is switched on, and you can toggle between them. Essentially, this allows you to have your cake and eat it, too — by keeping the original Xbox BIOS and adding the Cromwell Linux BIOS, you can run both games and a Linux distribution.

The easiest way to upgrade

the BIOS is to use a USB memory key, although it's also possible to perform the upgrade over a network. We've chosen to use the memory key method. Unpack the Cromwell archive from our cover discs using WinRAR and copy the *cromwell.bin* file to a blank memory key. Take the key and, while the console is switched off, plug it into your Xbox via the USB adaptor that shipped with your mod chip. Power up your Xbox and the mod chip's built-in OS should load. From here you can choose to add the BIOS to your Xbox permanently, which will copy it from the memory key.

You should take some time to get to know the OS that's included with your mod chip. Many are quite powerful pieces of software that include handy tools. Most allow you to plug the Xbox into a network and access it from Windows PC. This can be extremely useful if you're looking to back up a hard disk over a network or install new software to the disk.

After installation, you'll be able to choose to load the Cromwell Linux BIOS, which will present a screen asking what location you'd like to boot from. The next step is to point it to our Linux-based media centre OS. For this, we've opted to use Gentoo Media Center (<http://gentoox.shallax.com/>), as it provides full functionality for playing movie files, DVDs, music and images.

The entire platform is based around the popular MythTV Linux application and is extremely easy to use. You can navigate it using your mouse and keyboard, or the Xbox DVD playback kit remote control. The layout is clean and simple, with most of the software functions accessible directly from the main menu. Most of the settings are already taken care of for you, so the only thing you'll really have to

BE PREPARED

Before you begin, you'll need a few tools:

- ◆ Mod chip (Xenium SPICE recommended)
- ◆ Antistatic wrist strap
- ◆ Xbox USB adaptor (included with many mod chips)
- ◆ T-10, T-15 and T-25 Torx screwdrivers
- ◆ Replacement IDE hard disk (20GB or larger)
- ◆ Multimeter (only needed if you have a version 1.4 or 1.5 Xbox)
- ◆ IDE power splitter
- ◆ USB keyboard
- ◆ Blank USB memory key
- ◆ Blank optical media (DVD-RW recommended)
- ◆ Ethernet patch cable (if you have a router or hub)
- ◆ Ethernet crossover cable (if you want to connect an Xbox and PC directly)
- ◆ Xbox DVD playback remote control (recommended for navigating Gentoo Media Center)



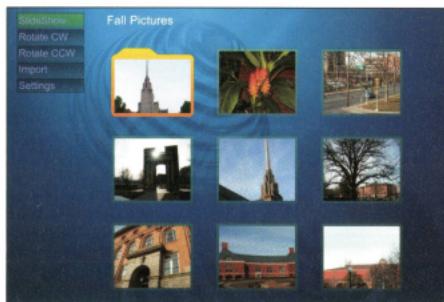
configure before leaping in to use the system is your locale for weather updates. All of the configuration details are found under the Settings menu. From here, it's straightforward to adjust your location, weather units and aggressiveness (how often the Internet weather sites are polled for information).

You can find more information on MythTV — including manuals and guides — at www.mythtv.org.

Burning Gentoox to disc

Note that installing your copy of Linux on your Xbox hard disk will first require you to burn it to a writable CD or DVD disc. Xbox DVD-ROM drives are notoriously picky about which type of optical media (and burn settings) you use to create the disc, so you might have to try this several times before the Xbox will read it correctly. We recommend you try burning the Gentoox Media Center file (found on this month's cover discs) on the following media, listed in order of highest compatibility: DVD-RW, DVD-R, DVD+RW, DVD+R and CD-RW. CD-R media tends to be the least compatible, so we recommend you avoid using it. Before burning the ISO to a rewritable disc, ensure that you've completely erased any previous data, as it could affect compatibility. An .iso file is an image of a disc, so you'll have to burn its contents onto the blank media with your PC's CD or DVD burner using a burning application. We've included the free version of DeepBurner (www.deepburner.com) on this month's cover discs in case you need a burning program.

Start out by saving the Gentoox Media Center 1.3 ISO from our cover DVD to your hard disk. Open DeepBurner and select 'Burn ISO image' and click Next. Click the '...' button next to the 'Image file' box, then browse to and open the Gentoox ISO. Drop a blank disc in your DVD or CD burner and then click the 'Burn ISO' button. DeepBurner will then write all the data to the disc and close it upon completion, so that no



more can be added, which maximises compatibility.

After the image is burned to the disc, load Windows Explorer (Start → Run, type `explorer` and press Enter) and navigate to the disc, where several files should be visible. If only the .iso file is listed, you've mistakenly burned the entire image to the disc, not the data contained within. Head to <http://tinyurl.com/3wzjoh> for detailed information on how to burn .iso files under a range of popular software applications.

With an upgraded hard disk, a functional Cromwell Linux BIOS and a working keyboard and mouse, you're then ready to move onto installing and using Linux.

Installing Gentoox Media Center

Boot the Xbox with the Cromwell Linux BIOS and select 'CD-ROM (hdb)' to boot from the CD. Be aware that you may need to try several different types of media before your drive will load the disc correctly. If successful, the Xbox will start

to load the Gentoox setup software, which will completely erase your hard disk and start installing Linux. The process is quite time-consuming, so don't worry if the Xbox appears to hang or if there's not much activity onscreen for a while.

Eventually the system will restart. Select the Cromwell BIOS again, and this time you should have a new option appear on the menu screen: hda1. This icon represents the hard disk, which is currently configured to install Gentoox Media Center. Select this icon and press the A button (or press Enter on the keyboard) and then the system will go about unpacking Gentoox Media Center on the hard disk. This also takes a long time, although there are constant updates onscreen to let you know what's happening.

The system will restart, from which point you should again select Cromwell Linux BIOS, and then hda1. This time, you've got two options: MCE and 'MCE Rescue'. The first is used to drive

Gentoox Media Center is based around the popular MythTV media playback application.

the Media Center software, while the second is used to repair a damaged installation. Select MCE and the Xbox will load the configuration wizard to help set up your Xbox. Here's where you'll really need your keyboard for the first time. You'll be asked to enter your display adaptor and desired resolution. If you've got a newer TV, opt for a resolution of 800 by 600 pixels, otherwise 640 by 480 is ideal. Type `PAL` at the next screen to configure your system for an Australian PAL TV, and then enter `13` for both the horizontal and vertical overscan correction values. The system will finalise your settings and reboot again.

The next time you try to boot with the Cromwell ROM, select hda1 and you'll be presented with the Media Center loading screen. You can navigate through the software, but you first need to add media to the system.

Copying data to the Xbox

If you have a home network with a hub or router, plug the Xbox into a spare port on the hub using a regular CAT5 network cable. If you don't have a hub or router, you'll need to use an Ethernet crossover cable to connect directly to the Ethernet port on your PC.

If your hub includes a DHCP server, the Xbox will automatically pick up a network address, which will be displayed during the Media Center boot sequence. If not (as in the case with a direct connection via crossover cable), the OS will default to 192.168.1.13.

After connecting the PC and Xbox, you can double-check the connection from the PC by clicking Start → Run and typing `cmd` in the box to launch a DOS prompt. Type `ping ipaddress` to send a ping request to the Xbox, where `ipaddress` is the IP address of your Xbox. A successful connection will result in replies displayed 

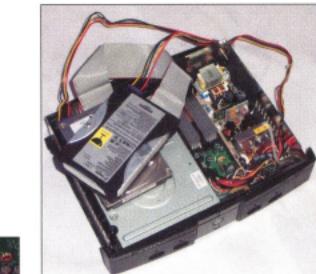
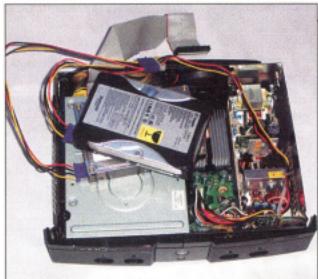
HANDY WEB LINKS

Here's a collection of handy Web links to help you when upgrading your Xbox.

- ◆ www.xbox-scene.com/articles/open1.php — a detailed article on how to open your Xbox.
- ◆ www.xbox-scene.com/versions.php — an article explaining how to check which version of Xbox you have.
- ◆ www.xbox-linux.org — a Web site dedicated to running Linux on your Xbox.
- ◆ opendk.sourceforge.net — the main resource for developers looking to build legal software for the platform.
- ◆ www.teamxodus.com — the manufacturer's Web site for the recommended Xenium SPICE mod chip.

STEP BY STEP **INSTALL A NEW HARD DRIVE**

1 While you've got the Xbox open to install the mod chip, it's a good idea to upgrade the hard disk. Gentoxx Media Center demands at least a 20GB drive, although you might want to go bigger, especially if you plan to store your media files locally on the Xbox. The original hard drive is held in its caddy by four T-15 Torx screws. It's a straightforward process to swap the drive for a larger IDE model. It doesn't matter if you use 7,200rpm or 5,400rpm drives, and most current mod chips support drives over 137GB in size.



3 Disconnect the IDE cable from the DVD-ROM drive and plug it into the new hard disk. Make sure you leave the yellow drive power cable connected, though. The next step is to boot the Xbox and load the original OS that came on the mod chip. Most current mod chips — the Xenium SPICE included — have the ability to copy the contents of one disk to the other. Select this option, following the onscreen instructions.

2 Before going too far, you'll have to back up the contents of your original Xbox drive. Most modern mod chips have inbuilt functions that allow you to do this with the machine turned on. Take your large, new hard disk and set the jumper on it to Slave. Next, disconnect the power cable from the original hard disk and attach a power splitter. This will enable you to power both the old and new drives simultaneously.



4 The backup will take a few minutes, after which you can swap the drives. Remove the old drive from its caddy and drop in the new one. Change the jumper setting on the new drive from Slave to 'Cable select' and remove the cable splitter from the power connector. Complete the upgrade by reconnecting the IDE cable to the DVD drive and replacing the hard disk caddy.

from the remote system, otherwise the request will time out. If you successfully manage to ping the Xbox, copy media to it. Otherwise, go back and double-check your setup.

You can then connect using Windows Explorer. Type `\mediacenter` into the address bar and you'll be asked to log in. Enter `media` as a username and `xbox` as the password.

Alternatively, you can add files using FTP. Launch an FTP program like SmartFTP (also on this month's cover discs) and type the IP address of the Xbox in the Address bar at the top of the screen. Click Connect and

you'll be asked to enter a login and password (again, `media` and `xbox`, respectively). After logging in, you can navigate the Xbox's file structure and copy data into it with Gentoxx Media Center. Make sure that you copy video files to the `/media/` Videos directory. Music belongs in `/media/Music`, and images reside in `/media/Pictures`.

After you've finished transferring files to the hard disk, disconnect from the Xbox in the FTP software or close the Windows share folder. Any media that you add to the drive will be available in Gentoxx Media Center the

next time you check.

By now you're probably getting an idea of just how powerful and feature-rich Gentoxx Media Center is. If your Xbox is permanently connected to the Internet, be sure to spend some time going through the settings page and configuring your favourite Web sites, location for weather updates, and RSS news feeds.

The software lets you play music, view images, and watch movies. Comprehensive documentation is available at <http://gentoxx.shallax.com> should you get stuck. And remember, if you break

anything, you can always just select 'MCE Rescue' after choosing `hd1a` in the Cromwell Linux BIOS, and have the system reconstruct the entire OS for you.

Make sure that you keep your USB keyboard and mouse handy. If you don't have an Xbox remote (found in Xbox DVD playback kits), you'll need them to navigate, and you may wind up using them to tweak the Media Center configuration further down the track.

All that's left now is to kick back, relax, and enjoy the newfound power of your Xbox console. ☺

How Shareaza works

Nathan Taylor looks at Shareaza, the peer-to-peer client that supports many networks.

It's one of the most loved of all P2P clients, and Shareaza is popular for a very good reason: it's a one-stop shop for all the most popular networks. The single client supports the eMule/eDonkey, BitTorrent and Gnutella networks. Even better, it supports them concurrently for the same download: start downloading a file from one network, and Shareaza can go out onto the other networks and search for that file, and if it is found, begin downloading it from the other networks as well.

We've covered eMule and BitTorrent at some length, but Gnutella will be new to many readers. Gnutella 1 and 2 (Shareaza supports both) work, in practice, very much like eMule. You can perform a text search of the network, or use Web links to start downloads. Gnutella is designed to be serverless, so it can never be shut down by legal action. However, there are far fewer users of Gnutella (many were burned by the poor

ON THE COVER DISCS
You'll find Shareaza on this month's cover discs.

performance of Gnutella 1), so most of your downloads will come from the eMule network.

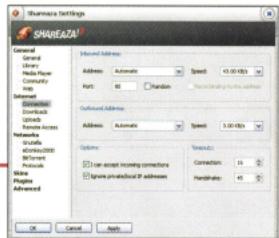
Getting started

Recently open sourced, which has sped up the rate of improvement considerably, Shareaza can be downloaded from www.shareaza.com or this month's cover discs. Getting it up and running takes a bit longer because you have to configure more than one network.

One of the good things about the version 2.1 of Shareaza is that so much of the program is preconfigured for you. Install the application with the default settings for now. Once you've installed it, you'll need to configure a few of the core settings. Click Tools → Shareaza Settings.

In the Settings window, select Connection in the left-hand panel. This will bring up a screen that allows you to set your incoming port number which, as always, will need to be opened up in your firewall software and forwarded on your router. It also allows you to set upload and download speed limits.

Setting the port number and speed limits of Shareaza.



Next, click on Downloads in the left-hand panel. This is where you can set the directories in which files should be saved during download and when complete. Advanced users can also set the maximum number of concurrent file downloads and connections here (these figures apply only to eDonkey and Gnutella downloads, not BitTorrent). If you have a fast connection, you can increase these, otherwise you should leave them as is.

Next, set up the individual networks by clicking on Networks in the left panel. This displays a page with tick boxes for the various supported networks. We recommend switching on Gnutella 2 and eDonkey, but leaving the original Gnutella network switched off. You can finetune the settings for each of the networks if you like by clicking on their names in the left panel. However, this is a job best left to experts, and we don't recommend fiddling if you're unsure of what the settings mean.

Two things you might be interested in doing is setting the number of concurrent BitTorrent downloads (in the BitTorrent tab) and importing any in-progress downloads you might have from an eMule client in the eDonkey2000 tab, so you don't have to wait until all your eMule downloads are finished before migrating to Shareaza.

Once your settings have been configured, you can begin downloading. Click Apply and close the Preferences window. Shareaza takes torrent files much like any other BitTorrent

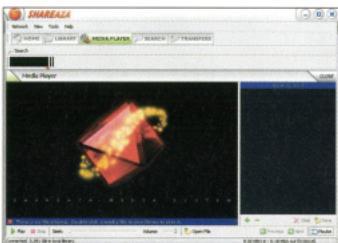
client. As long as the .torrent file type is associated with Shareaza, any torrents you download will open here.

Browsing eMule and Gnutella (a single search does both) is a matter of going to the Search tab at the top of the screen. In the left-hand panel, type in the keywords for the search. You can add filters for the file type and network if you like. A list of hits will appear in the right-hand panel, and double-clicking on any will send them to the Transfers queue. You can have multiple concurrent searches running, and they will appear as tabs just above the window.

The queue of current and pending transfers can be perused in the Transfers tab. Controlling these is very much as in eMule: you can expand the view to see who you're downloading from, and right-clicking on a given item will produce a context menu of options, including an option to cancel the download. Shareaza also has a very nice integrated media player, which can be used to play in-progress downloads, assuming you have enough of the file to play.

Setting up the folders you'd like to share is managed in the Library tab. Open it and click on Folders above the left pane to view your currently shared files and folders. To add another folder, click 'Share Files' at the bottom of the window. Double-clicking on any files in this view will also initiate Shareaza's media player.

Next month, we'll look at the now infamous Kazaa file-sharing system. ☺



Shareaza has an integrated media player from which you can view in-progress downloads.

Too late to make a boot disk?

No, it's never too late.
Link Harris explains
how to create a boot
floppy from someone
else's PC.

Last month we explained how to make an XP boot floppy or CD for your PC, from your PC. In summary, to create a boot floppy, you first format it from Windows XP; to create a CD, you make it bootable using an XP image file; and for either, you copy several startup files from the root folder of your PC's system drive. From here on, we'll focus on the boot floppy and not specifically mention the boot CD, although much of the material is equally applicable to the latter.

If you've put off making a boot floppy and suddenly discover that Windows won't start, you can forget about formatting a floppy or copying startup files from your PC. Does this mean you can't create one of these boot boosters? Not at all; it just requires a bit more resourcefulness. You'll need a working PC, preferably running a version of Windows XP, but if you're desperate, you can get by with one running any version of Windows.

In last month's tutorial, we explained how to use a boot floppy to fix problems with one or more of Windows XP's startup files. Of course, there can be other reasons why Windows won't start, so before we get stuck in to creating an XP boot floppy, let's look at some of its limitations.

• The boot floppy

An XP boot floppy will boot Windows XP to the point where

'Starting Windows' appears on the screen. Therefore, the boot floppy can't help with boot problems that occur after that stage. In particular, if XP won't start because of a botched Registry, the way to get around this is to press F8 after your PC's power-on self-test (POST), but before the 'Starting Windows' message. This will bring up the Advanced Options menu, where you should select 'Last Known Good Configuration'. This will return the Registry to the way it was the last time Windows XP started successfully.

If your PC won't boot because the hard disk has a corrupted or virus-infected boot sector or master boot record (MBR), you can start Windows using the boot floppy. However, it can't help repair these problems, which you should attack as follows:

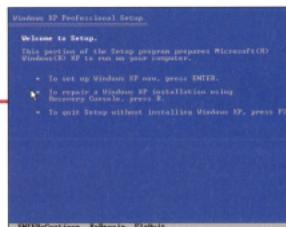
- 1 Do a complete virus scan of your system.
- 2 Start Recovery Console and, if the system drive is formatted with either FAT16 or FAT32, run **fixboot** to write a new boot sector.
- 3 For all file systems, run **fixmbr** from Recovery Console to repair the MBR.

See *PC User* July, page 106, for more details on using Recovery Console and 'Last Known Good Configuration'.

• XP's forebears

To make an XP boot floppy from a PC other than your own, the first step is to format the floppy. Naturally, you can do this from any PC running either flavour of Windows XP. What may surprise you is that you could also use a computer running Windows Server 2003, Windows 2000 Professional or Server, or Windows NT Workstation

To start Recovery Console, boot with the Windows XP CD and press R when the 'Welcome to Setup' screen appears.



or Server 4.0.

Each of these operating systems formats a floppy the same way, no matter what file system the computer is using: NTFS, FAT32 or FAT16 (which is commonly called FAT). In all cases, the formatted floppy uses the FAT file system, it's bootable and its master boot record points to the file NTLDR in the root folder of the floppy. Beyond that, differences in the operating systems start to surface.

Although the files NTLDR and Ntdetect.com are the same for Windows Server 2003 and both flavours of Windows XP, they are different from the files of the same name for the Windows 2000 families, which are different again from the corresponding files for the NT families. If you've formatted the floppy from any of these XP ancestors, you should copy the files NTLDR and Ntdetect.com from D:\i386 on the Windows XP CD, where D represents the letter for your CD drive.

Finally, if your PC has a SCSI hard disk, copy the appropriate SCSI driver to the floppy and rename the file Ntbootdd.sys.

• Other versions of Windows

If you can't scrounge a PC running Windows NT or one of its operating system descendants (listed above) to format a boot floppy, you can use Windows 9x/Me and improvise with the first of the six Windows XP Setup boot floppies, as explained in the step-by-step example on the opposite page.

• Beware the Boot.ini

None of the procedures described in this tutorial include copying the file Boot.ini to the floppy. It's the one startup file that's often unique to your PC, particularly if you're multibooting or your PC has more than one hard disk.

In these situations, you shouldn't try to use the Boot.ini file from another PC unless you know for certain that its XP installation is identical to yours. Instead, you need to recreate Boot.ini from scratch, a project we'll tackle in the November issue of *PC User*. 

ON THE COVER DISCS

Check out the video version of this tutorial on this month's cover discs.

TOP TIP

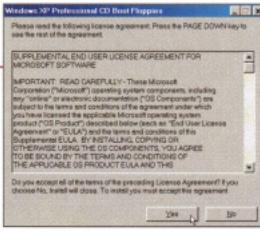
Give Boot.ini the boot

If your PC has a simple configuration with XP installed in C:\Windows, you can get by without any Boot.ini file on the XP boot floppy. That's because NTLDR won't throw a complete tantrum if it can't find Boot.ini in the root folder of the floppy. Instead, NTLDR reports the file missing, takes a punt that the XP boot files will be located in C:\Windows and then tries looking for them there. Note: that's the limit of NTLDR's resourcefulness. If your XP boot files are located somewhere other than C:\Windows, NTLDR will report: 'Windows could not start because the following file is missing or corrupt: <Windows root>\System32\hal.dll. Please re-install a copy of the above file.'

STEP BY STEP CREATE AN XP BOOT FLOPPY FROM 9X/ME

Use this procedure if your Windows XP PC won't start and you only have access to a PC running Windows 9x/Me.

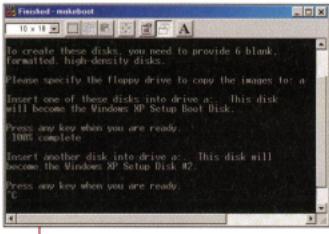
1 Download any of the program files for Windows XP Setup boot disks (it doesn't matter which Service Pack or flavour of Windows XP you choose) from <http://tinyurl.com/176d>, double-click on the downloaded .exe file, and click Yes to accept the End User License Agreement (EULA).



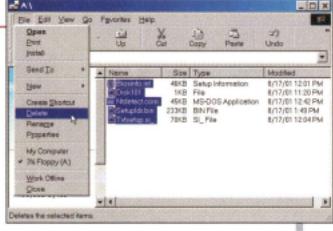
2 At the prompt, type the letter of your floppy disk drive — this is usually A. You don't need to press Enter.

3 Insert a floppy disk into the drive and press any key to format the floppy and copy the files.

8 Select the file NTLD.R on the floppy, click File —> Rename, type **Setupldr.bin** for the new name and press Enter. Then click Yes to clear the warning box. Setupldr.bin is the filename the master boot record on XP Setup floppy 1 points to instead of NTLD.R. If you don't rename NTLD.R, when you try to boot with the floppy you'll receive the unhelpful error message: 'Boot: couldn't find NTLD.R'. Please insert another disk. If this happens, you have to press Ctrl-Alt-Delete to restart the PC. Finally, if your PC has a SCSI hard disk, copy the driver to the floppy and rename the file Ntbootdd.sys.

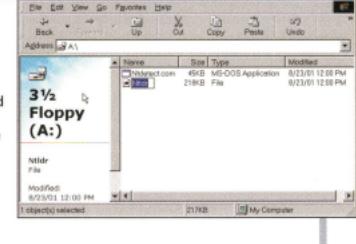


5 This stops the program, as shown in the title bar. Close the MS-DOS Prompt window.



6 Double-click My Computer, double-click the floppy icon, select all of the files and click File —> Delete. Then click Yes to confirm the deletion and Yes to confirm deleting Ntdetect.com.

7 Put a Windows XP CD in the drive, click 'Perform additional tasks' —> 'Browse this CD'. Browse to the i386 folder, select the file Ntdetect.com and click File —> Send To —> 3½ Floppy (A). Repeat for the file NTLD.R. This copies the two files to the floppy disk.



4 When the prompt for the second floppy appears, press Ctrl-C.

SUBSCRIBE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN 1 OF 10 MEDIAGATE MG-35 MEDIA PLAYERS

Subscribe to *PC User* — Australia's No.1 technology magazine and winner of the 2004 Sun Microsystems IT Journo award for 'Best Technical Title'



PHONE 13 61 16 AND QUOTE
'M509PCU' OR SUBSCRIBE ONLINE
AT www.pcuser.magshop.com.au



Anyware™
MEDIAGATE

Australia's No.1 technology magazine delivered directly to your door for only \$79.95:

- Never miss an issue
- FREE home delivery
- 25% saving off the newsstand price
- PLUS – go into the draw to win one of 10 MediaGate MG-35 media players valued at \$299 each.

Save over \$25 by subscribing now

PC USER AUSTRALIAN

Using the MediaGate MG-35, home entertainment has never been easier. This portable player allows DivX, MPEG-4, DAT, XviD, MP3, OGG, WMA and JPEG playback. It has Dolby Digital capabilities and the user-friendly remote control makes it easy to search through your music, movies and pictures. Using a 3.5in hard disk drive (not included), the MediaGate MG-35 can store hundreds of movies, music files or images ready for viewing via your TV. Its networking capabilities also allow direct playback of files from your PC.

Anyware Computer Accessories is the official Australian and New Zealand MediaGate distributor (www.anyware.com.au).

Getting more out of image files

Terry O'Shannasy shows how to use IrfanView to beef up Windows 98's limited imaging features.

As Windows has developed over the years, new versions have increasingly added features for working with image files. Windows 98, for example, added the capability to display a thumbnail of a selected image file; Windows Me added much more. In Me, all image files in the My Pictures folder can be displayed as thumbnails. Pictures can be viewed in a preview pane, and from there zoomed in or out, printed or rotated. The images in a folder can be displayed fullscreen as a slideshow.

Windows XP added more features again. Any folder used for image storage has extra features available to start with, and a 'filmstrip' view is added for previewing images. The Windows Picture and Fax Viewer is a vast improvement on Windows Me's preview pane, and a task-click in image folders adds one-click access to a number of common actions you can perform on your images.

The good news is that Windows 98 users aren't necessarily stuck with limited image viewing capabilities. Installing suitable software can add all the features of later Windows versions and more to Windows 98. For example, take

IrfanView, the program featured in this article. It adds so much functionality to the system that Windows Me users would also do well to adopt it.

Among IrfanView's features are the following capabilities:

- ◆ Brows any folder for thumbnails of images, and have the thumbnails set to the size and quality of your choice.
- ◆ View all or a selection of images in a folder as a slideshow.
- ◆ Copy, move and delete images.
- ◆ Copy selected images to a data CD or VCD using Nero.
- ◆ Save a slideshow as an executable file or a screensaver.
- ◆ Capture screenshots.
- ◆ Perform batch conversions or renaming of image files.
- ◆ Merge pictures to create a panorama image.
- ◆ Acquire images from a camera or scanner.
- ◆ Crop or resize images, make multiple images into a collage.
- ◆ Apply effects filters.
- ◆ Add text to images.

IrfanView also acts as a 'shell' for your movie and audio files, and provides a rudimentary viewer for watching or listening to them. You can also link your favourite graphics programs to IrfanView for more advanced editing features. Before exploring those features, however, we need to get it installed and some of its features tweaked to improve its functionality.

Installing and tweaking IrfanView

Download IrfanView and start the installation. During the

installation, uncheck the 'eBay Shortcuts' and 'eBay Toolbar' options unless you specifically want to use them. When asked about file associations, we suggest you choose None. It's not necessary to associate image files and have them open in IrfanView when you double-click them. We can also add right-click context menu items later, which will make file associations redundant.

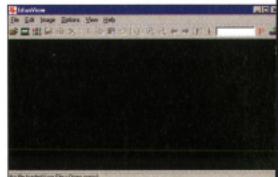
Install the IrfanView plug-ins as well as the program. Start IrfanView, and on the menu bar, click Options → Properties to begin tweaking the program. Make these changes on the following tabs:

- ◆ **Extensions tab.** Click the 'Clear all' button if file types are associated. Select both 'Shell menu' options at the bottom of the tab. (You can come back here at a later date and associate file types if you wish.)
- ◆ **File Handling tab.** Enable 'Jump to the next file after deleting/moving'.
- ◆ **Fullscreen tab.** Select 'Fit to screen' for all images/movies'.
- ◆ **Misc 1 tab.** Select the following: 'Jump to next image on page up/page down'; 'Use right mouse button for context menu'; 'Start in fullscreen mode' and 'Warning on ESC, exit'.
- ◆ **Misc 2 tab.** Choose the program you wish to use as an external image editor for advanced image editing. See the 'Top tip' box on the opposite page for details.
- ◆ **Misc 3 tab.** Select the toolbar buttons for Thumbnails and Prints.
- ◆ **Video/Sound.** Select 'Use external viewer'.

Finally, click OK to complete your changes.

Browse image folders

IrfanView provides two ways to browse drives and folders. You can click on the Thumbnails



TOP TIP
The unassuming interface of IrfanView hides a wealth of features.

Working with folders

The only real drawback of IrfanView is the lack of a 'New Folder' button when you are selecting storage folders in a number of its functions. The thumbnail browser allows you to create subfolders by selecting and right-clicking a folder icon. It is always good practice to plan out your work and create the folders you will need before starting a job.

icon on the toolbar, or use the desktop shortcut for 'IrfanView Thumbnails'. Alternatively, you can right-click on the folder of your choice from within Explorer or My Computer and select Browse with IrfanView'.

The Explorer-style Thumbnails browser has all images in a folder displayed as thumbnails in the right pane of the window. Windows 98 users will likely find this feature a welcome addition. Right-click on one of the images and you'll soon see that the features available from this image browser are staggering. In fact, the feature set outstrips the functionality of Windows XP.

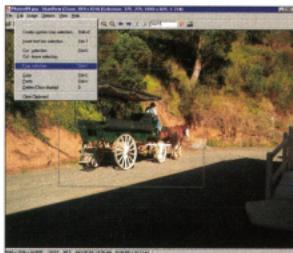
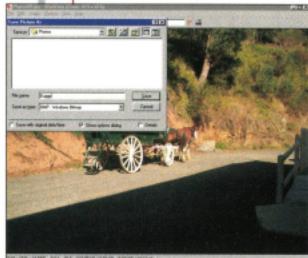
By default, the thumbnails are not high quality. If you want to change the settings, go to the 'Thumbnail browser' and click Options → Set Thumbnail Options. Then, make the following changes: enable 'Use resample'; change 'thumbnail size' to 100 by 100; enable 'Stretch small images' and finally, enable 'Show common shell folders'. Click OK and enjoy more detailed

WHERE TO GET IRFANVIEW

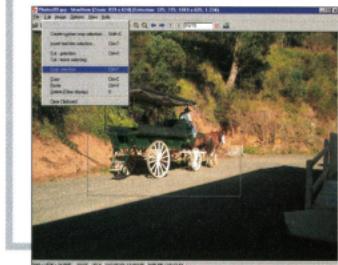
You can download the full version of IrfanView, as well as the essential collection of IrfanView plug-ins, by visiting www.irfanview.com and clicking on the Download link on the left menu.

STEP BY STEP PREPARE AN IMAGE FOR USE ON THE WEB

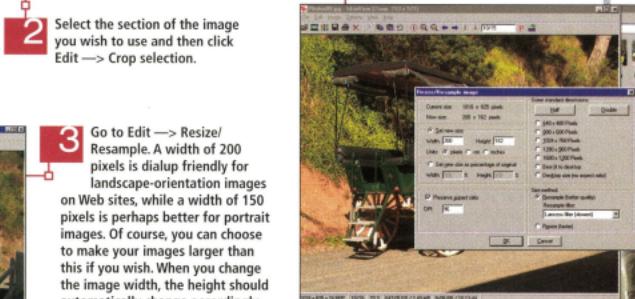
1 Be careful when working on images of a lossy file type such as JPEG. Repeated saving of a .jpg file will degrade its quality. Here, an image is being saved as a bitmap (.bmp) file prior to working on it.



2 Select the section of the image you wish to use and then click Edit → Crop selection.



3 Go to Edit → Resample. A width of 200 pixels is dialup friendly for landscape-orientation images on Web sites, while a width of 150 pixels is perhaps better for portrait images. Of course, you can choose to make your images larger than this if you wish. When you change the image width, the height should automatically change accordingly. Click OK when you're done.



thumbnails, as well as quick access to your desktop and documents folders.

To perform basic image editing, simply double-click a thumbnail to have it open in IrfanView. If you have a graphics program set as external editor, you can edit in that program instead by simply selecting that program from the right-click context menu. The context menu also provides access to many other features.

Watching slideshows

Displaying your photos one after another in fullscreen on your PC monitor beats flicking through a photo album. Even Windows Me users will welcome the ability to tweak your slideshows so that they display the way you want them to. The slideshow feature of Windows

Me (and XP) simply displays images one after another in the order they appear in the folder. With IrfanView, you can select which pictures are included, change the order in which they appear, save the slideshow as a file, or burn it to CD. You can even set the slideshow to automatically advance pictures, or wait until you press a key or tap a mouse button.

You can run a slideshow by clicking the Slideshow icon on IrfanView's toolbar and setting up the slideshow. You can also select the images you want to display using the Thumbnail browser and selecting 'Start slideshow' from the right-click context menu.

Image editing

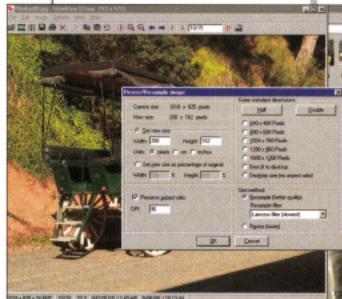
IrfanView's basic image editing features are limited, but still

perfectly capable for most of the editing you'll do. There is no lasso feature provided for working on irregularly shaped sections of an image, but you can select a rectangular section and cut or crop it from the image. Got a snapshot taken at an awkward angle? Simply display the image in IrfanView, use the 'Custom/fine rotation' tool to straighten it up, and then crop the picture to remove the wonky corners. There are any number of such tasks that you can easily do with the program.

You can also add effects to your image by downloading and using any Adobe 8BF plug-ins you may find for download from the Internet.

We've only skimmed the surface of what IrfanView can do for you in this article; you'll find lots more creative

4 With the image suitably altered, choose 'Save as' from the File menu. Select a folder to store it in, give the file a name and ensure it is saved as a .jpg file, so that it is suitable for inclusion on your Web site. Adjust the quality slider in the Options box if you wish. Higher quality means a larger file size and longer load times. A setting of 60% to 70% will be adequate for most purposes, while 80% would be better for photos of people.



TOP TIP Advanced graphics

To set your favourite graphics program as an external editor, you need to determine the name of the file that launches it. Find the program's entry on the Start → Programs menu, right-click it and select Properties. The entry denoted Target will show the folder path and filename of the file that launches the program. Make note of it, then use the Browse button on the 'Misc 2' tab of IrfanView's properties to locate and select the file, setting that program as your external image editor.

ideas if you visit <http://tinyurl.com/6cjim>, and you'll find some detailed tutorials there, too.

Desktop publishing in Word

Turn your documents into classy designs with multiple columns.

Helen Bradley explains.

If you have information to organise on a page in Microsoft Word, you may find columns a useful tool. Often, they'll let you to create a better-looking document than one using text that flows the full width of the page. Columns not only help you organise text in a newspaper-style format (where text runs through a series of narrow columns), but they also work well with documents such as step-by-step training documents and even some reports and brochures. In this column I show you how to organise text into columns in Word, including how to create a document that looks like it is formatted in columns, but uses tables instead. I'll also show you how you can get the look of columns using linked text boxes that work best in some other situations. I'll also show you which of these techniques you should use and when.

Column basics

Columns in a Word document allow you to divide the page vertically into two or more sections. Text you type into this sort of document runs down the first section (or column) until it is full and then it snakes over to start again at the top of the second column and so on. If there are no more columns, a new page is begun and the text begins to fill the first column of the new page.

These newspaper-style columns are obviously the tool to use for newsletters, but they also work well for training documents. You will often find

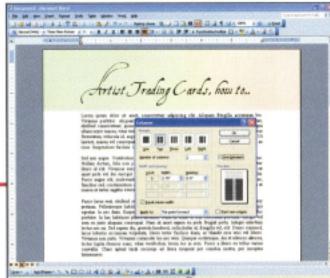
you can get more text on the page if you use columns and that it looks neater and more professional. In addition, text is more easily read when in columns because the column widths are shorter, so the lines of text are correspondingly shorter, too.

Columns are only visible in 'Print Layout' view, so you will need to switch to this view before you work with them. To do so, click View → Print Layout. When you create a document using columns, you can either do this as you type the document, or you can type it first and arrange it into columns later on. To format a document with columns, go to Format → Columns and select the number of columns to use. Typically, on an A4 sheet of paper, you will use two or three columns. Use two columns for training materials; for newsletters, you can use either two or three columns.

By default, all columns are created equal in width, but if you want to change this, disable the 'Equal column width' checkbox and set your own column widths and inter-column spacing instead. The widths are entered in the Width box for each column, and the spacing in the Spacing box. If you are configuring column widths and spacing manually, ensure that that you allow adequate spacing between the columns, particularly if your type will have a ragged right margin.

If you use left-justified type then the right margin of the text will have a ragged edge. If the spacing between the two columns is too narrow, the reader's eye will be encouraged to read across the two columns instead of reading down. This is particularly the case when there isn't a neat edge to give them a

The Columns dialog lets you configure the number and width of columns in your document.



visual indication that they've reached the end of the line.

The Columns dialog also has an 'Apply to' setting that lets you specify where the columns start. This is an extremely important setting, particularly in the situation where you want a heading to span the full width of the page and the columns to begin under the heading. In this situation, place your cursor where you want the columns to start and then click Format → Columns and configure your column settings. From the 'Apply to' list, choose 'This point forward' and the columns will begin at the cursor position, after the heading.

If you want a vertical line to appear between the columns, enable the 'Line between' checkbox — the line is black and a fixed width and can't be altered. When you are done, click OK to confirm your settings. If you have the Ruler showing, you will see the column markers on the ruler line. To view the ruler, go to View → Ruler.

If you haven't yet entered the text, you can then start typing in the column. When you reach the right edge of the column, the text will scroll around and begin a new line well before it reaches the right side of the page. When you fill the first column of text, the text will snake back up from the bottom of the first column to the top of the second.

Managing text in columns

When you want to finish a column of text before you reach

the bottom of the page, press Enter once, click Insert → Break → Column Break and then click OK. The text will then jump to the top of the next column, even though it hasn't reached the bottom of the first.

You can view the column break as you would any other special Word code by clicking the 'Show/Hide ¶' button on the toolbar. Column breaks can be deleted like any other Word code by placing your cursor just in front of the column break and pressing Delete. When you do this, the break will disappear and the text will realign down the first column to fill it and only overflow into the second once the first column is full.

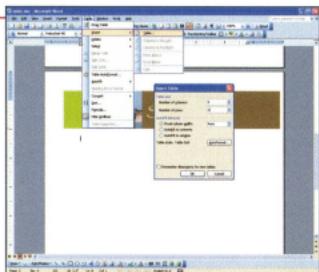
When you're working with columns, and if you need to move between columns, you can either click with your mouse or use these keyboard shortcuts. To move to the next column, press Alt-Down Arrow; to move to the previous column, press Alt-Up Arrow. These commands will only work where you already have text in the column, so if the second column is empty, pressing Alt-Down Arrow won't work.

Adding pictures

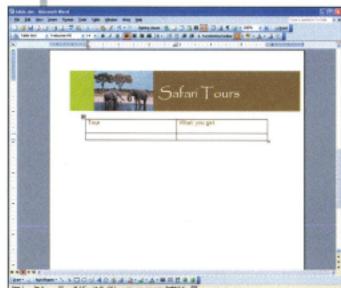
When you are working with columns, you can create pictures and clip art objects that span the gutter between the two columns. For example, go to Insert → Clip Art and choose an image to insert into the document. Right-click the image and select Format → Picture → Layout tab. Set the layout to Square or Tight and then click OK. You can

STEP BY STEP ALTERNATIVES TO COLUMNS

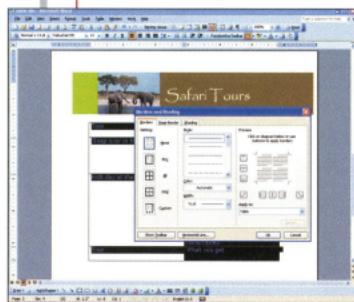
1 Say you need paragraphs of text to appear opposite each other, but in such a way that adding text to one paragraph will not affect the placement of other text on the page. Here, you should use a table in preference to columns. To do this, click where the table should appear and click Insert → Table.



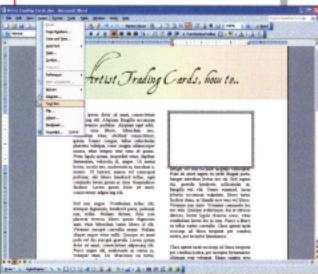
2 Set up your table with two columns and one row, and click OK. Click in the first cell and type the text for the first paragraph or element in your series of 'columns'. Press the Tab key and type the text that should appear opposite this. Press the Tab key and Word will add a new row to the table. Continue entering information into the table — each cell full of text will stay in a fixed position opposite the text in the cell opposite it.



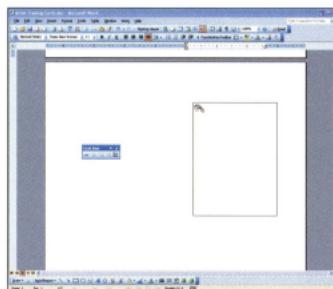
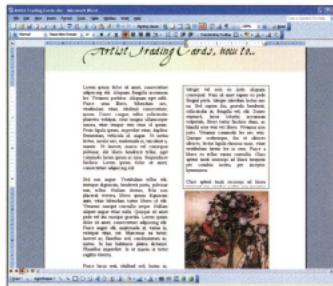
3 When you are done, go to Table → Select → Table and then Format → Borders and Shading → Borders tab and click None to remove the borders from the table, so they are not visible on the printed page. The result is that you get the impression of columns while ensuring the layout of your text is stable.



4 When you want text to flow through a document, but don't want it placed neatly in snaking columns (and perhaps with other text interspersed with it), linked text boxes are a good choice. To create these, click Insert → Text Box and drag to create a text box on the page.



5 Type the text into the text box. If there is too much text to fit in the box, click Insert → Text Box and draw a second text box. It doesn't matter where in the document you do this, except that the second box should appear after the first.



6 To link the two text boxes, ensure the 'Text Box' toolbar is visible. If not, go to View → Toolbars → Text Box to display it. Click on the first text box and click the 'Create Text Box Link' button on the 'Text Box' toolbar. Click in the middle of the second box to link the two. Overflow text will then flow from one box to fill the other.

then drag the image over the break between two columns. Where it overlaps the text in the column, it will push the text so that it scrolls neatly around the image.

To remove columns from a document, select the text that is the subject of the columns and click Format → Columns → One and press OK. This will remove the columns and reinstate the text as a single column that spans the full width of the page.

To create a block of text in a series of columns, but which has text following it that spans the full width of the page, first select the text that should appear in columns. Then, go to Format → Columns and select the number of columns to use. From the 'Applies to' list, choose 'Selected text' and click OK. Now, only the selected text will be formatted in columns and all text before and after it will appear as normal.

Adjusting column settings

When you have text formatted in columns, you can adjust the column width either by using the Columns dialog or from the Ruler bar. To use the Ruler bar, drag on the markers at either edge of the columns and drag them to make the columns wider or narrower. If the column markers won't move when you drag on them, hold the Alt key and they will all size together. This will be the case when you have configured columns with equal column widths.

You can balance newspaper-style columns so that the same amount of text appears in each column. You would do this, for example, when you have finished entering your text and when the last column is not full. Go to Insert → Break → Continuous. This will add a section break at this point in the document, evening out the columns, even though the end of the page has not yet been reached. Should you wish to start a new page at this point, click Insert → Break → Page Break and click OK. Alternatively, you can simply begin a new set of columns.

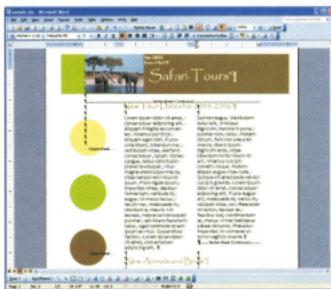
If you find it difficult to see the boundaries of the columns on the page, you can enable guidelines that will help you see what is happening. To do this, go to Tools → Options → Text Boundaries and you will see the columns marked clearly on the page. Repeat these steps to disable this option if you decide you don't like the effect.

Adding tables to columns

It is possible to add a table to a column layout by clicking Insert → Table and then creating the table as you would any regular table. A table can span two columns much as an image does. To do this, simply click in the table and then drag the Move button that appears at the top-left corner of the table, and then drag the table into position over the break between two columns. Like an image, the table will push the text beneath it out of the way, so it wraps around the table edges.

Hyphenation

When using columns you will sometime find that the lines of text are much shorter than is desirable. This occurs where



Use the columns feature to create a newspaper-type document in Word.

a long word that should have appeared at the end of a line has been moved to the beginning of the next line because it won't fit. The result is that there is a large gap at the end of the line and the edge of the column looks very ragged indeed.

If you wish to even up the edge of the column, you can employ the 'Word Hyphenation' tool to hyphenate words that appear at the end of a line of text, so that part of the word will fit and the text edge is less ragged. To do this, select the text to hyphenate and go to Tools → Language → Hyphenation. Enable the

'Automatically hyphenate document' checkbox and set the 'Hyphenation zone' and the value for the 'Limit consecutive hyphens to' setting and click OK. Word will then automatically hyphenate your text and it will show a more even margin.

Another alternative for column text is to use the full justification option, which is selected by clicking the Justify button on the toolbar. This stretches the text to the full width of the column, so both edges are very even and straight. This improves the look of the column.

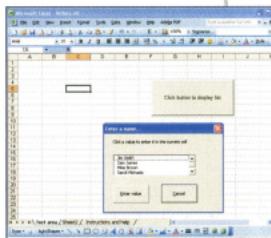
MACROS OF THE MONTH ON THE COVER DISCS

The Excel macro of the month is a list box that offers a list of names to the user. You can choose a name from the list and then click the 'Enter Value' button on the form and the name will be entered into the current cell in the workbook. The macro is comprised of a user form with the list box, two buttons and a module that contains the code to load the form. The form itself contains code for unloading itself, for populating the list box when the form is loaded, and for placing the selected item in the active cell in the workbook.

The list box is populated using a named range of cells in the workbook — using a named range of cells rather than a fixed range ensures you can add or remove items from the list without having to alter the macro. The macro and form are contained in the file *worksheets.listbox.xls* on the cover discs.

The Word macro of the month is a list of names that you can select from to enter into the current document. It uses a 'multi-select' list box (this feature is configured by setting a list box property), so you can select one or more names. This is more complex and involves processing each entry in the list box to see if it is selected or not, and then adding it to the list for entering into the current document. This list box is populated with a list of names that appear in the macro itself.

You will find there are many similarities between the two macros and their associated user forms, and some differences. The differences are in the loading and processing routines occasioned by the different location of the list data and the different requirements for processing a multi-select list. The macro is contained in the file called *namelist.doc*.



This month's Excel macro is a form that displays a list box from which you can choose a name and it will be entered into the current cell in the workbook.

Creative formatting with Publisher

Helen Bradley shows you how to customise Publisher with your own text styles.

Like any other program, Publisher is quicker and easier to use if it is customised to your particular needs. One of the key features of a desktop publishing program is its ability to format a publication very quickly with your choice of text. This month, we show you two ways you can customise Publisher so that the fonts you use all the time are available when you need them.

Font schemes

One method of configuring fonts in Publisher 2002 and 2003 to meet your needs is to create a font scheme with a combination of fonts that you want to use together. Then you can apply the fonts to a document with one click, using a series of styles.

The 'Font Schemes' task pane contains a selection of font schemes that you can use with a Publisher document. To see it at work, open a Publisher design template, open the 'Font Schemes' task pane and click a scheme to use. The way the schemes work is that there are a number of styles at use in the document and, when you click a different scheme, the styles will be updated with the different fonts.

In addition to using the built-in font schemes, you can also create your own custom schemes, which work the same way. To do this, click the dropdown list next to a font scheme similar to the one you want to create and select 'Duplicate'

TOP TIP

Format with styles

If you use styles to format Publisher documents, then you can apply different font schemes to the publication by choosing one from the 'Font Schemes' list. Each time you select a new font scheme, all the text formatted using styles will change automatically.

Modify the styles in a publication and save these to create your own Publisher font scheme.



Scheme'. Type a name for your scheme and click OK. You will then have a new scheme in the 'Font schemes' list. Click the scheme to apply it to the current document and then click the 'Styles and Formatting' link at the foot of the 'Font Schemes' task pane to open the 'Styles and Formatting' task pane.

Choose 'Show all styles' from the Show list to make alterations to all the styles that are currently available. To alter a style, click the down arrow to the right of the style and choose Modify. Click the Font button in the 'Modify style' dialog then make the desired change to the font name. To change all the styles will take a little time, but the result will be a font scheme that is totally customised.

Once you have made your changes to the styles in the Style list, click the 'Font Schemes' link

at the foot of the task pane and then, from the drop-down list beside your new font scheme, select 'Update scheme to match current publication'. This saves the changes that you have made to the fonts into your scheme.

You can then apply your font scheme as you would any other font scheme. You should note that the font scheme will not generally retain font colour information, but it does retain information about the fonts themselves.

When applying a font scheme to a document, if you find that the size of the fonts in the scheme are too big for the document, so that the text does not show correctly, undo the application of the font scheme. Click the 'Font scheme options' link at the foot of the 'Font Schemes' task pane and disable the 'Adjust font sizes' checkbox. Reapply the font scheme to the document and

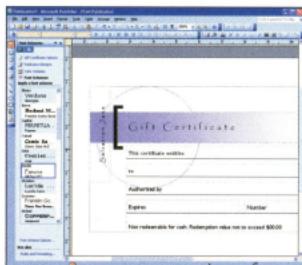
you will find that the text sizes will be more manageable.

Set a default text style

It is also possible to select a default text style for your blank Publisher documents. Then, whenever you start a new blank Publisher document, the chosen font will be the default used.

To do this, you must create a new Publisher template called `normal.pub` and save it in the correct location. Begin by clicking File → New and then the 'Blank Print Publication' link. Drag a textbox onto the page, go to Format → Styles and Formatting, and locate the Normal style. Click the drop-down list to the right of this style, choose Modify and then configure the default font that you want to use for all new Publisher documents. You can also select a font colour and size if desired. Click OK twice to set this as the default font.

Click File → Save as and, from the 'Save as type' dropdown list, choose 'Publisher Template (*.pub)'. Type the file name `normal.pub`, locate the folder `C:\Documents and Settings\username\Application Data\Microsoft\Office` (where `username` is your username) and then save the file in this location. Close the file and then, when you click File → New to create a new blank publication, the default font will be the one you have configured. ☺



Font schemes allow you to quickly change the look of all text items in a Publisher document.

Getting to know Photoshop CS2

Helen Bradley
explains some of
the key features
of Adobe's new
Photoshop CS2.

As with all new software releases, Adobe Photoshop CS2 has lots of handy new tools and filters for editing and improving your images. Many of these are useful to anyone — from those who use Photoshop for drawing and original illustration, to those who use it for manipulating photos. This month, I show you some of the key new features of Photoshop CS2 and how to put them to work on your images.

The Bridge

Most of what's new in Adobe Photoshop CS2 will not be visible when you first launch the program. The basic interface is pretty much as it always was, but you will find changes immediately if you go to File → Browse. This new browse dialog is called Adobe Bridge and it's an all-new tool for managing images. If you don't have a fast computer you may find that this tool is extremely slow, but it has some powerful options for locating and

managing your images that do help redeem it somewhat.

Included in the Bridge tool is the ability to label images for easier sorting or identification. For example, giving an image a star rating or a colour label can make it easier to locate these images. You can choose to view only images that match the label you've applied. For example, if you assign certain images a purple label, you can then choose to show images with purple labels only, so only these will be visible in the browse dialog.

To apply a colour label, right-click the image, select Label and then the desired colour. You can also apply keywords to an image using the Keywords pane. Apply a star rating to an image by using the Label menu options, or clicking below the image thumbnail and clicking the number of stars to apply. You can then search for images using keywords or ratings later on.

New filters

Back in the program itself, you will find the new Vanishing Point filter. It's designed for use with images that show perspective distortion, where the horizontal and vertical lines in the image do not run horizontally or vertically. The step-by-step example opposite

The new 'Smart Sharpen' filter lets you remove blur from images, as well as control sharpening in shadows and highlights.

shows how to use the Vanishing Point filter to add text or other objects to your image.

Another new feature is the Smart Sharpen tool, which might replace the Unsharp Mask as your favourite sharpening tool. The Smart Sharpen tool can be found by clicking Filter → Sharpen → Smart Sharpen. It allows you to not only apply an amount and radius, much as the Unsharp Mask tool does, but you can also remove blur using this tool. For example, you can use the 'Motion Blur' option to remove blur caused by the camera moving when the photo was being taken. Click the Advanced option and you can then manage how heavily sharpening is applied to the shadows and highlights in the image. This gives you more control over the halo effects that you might otherwise get with severe image sharpening.

Other handy tools

Photoshop CS2 has also borrowed some one-click-fix tools from its younger sibling, Adobe Photoshop Elements 3.0. Photoshop CS2 now has a Spot Healing brush, which shares a palette position with the Healing brush, Patch tool and new red-eye repair tool. The Spot Healing brush lets you click on a flaw in the image and remove it automatically, without you needing to sample



an area of the image first to use as a source point. The Spot Healing brush samples the image around the problem area and uses that data to fix the blemish.

The new red-eye removal tool lets you click on a red-eye problem in an image, and it will attempt to fix it automatically. The tool is similar to the one that appears in Photoshop Elements and it's a simple fix, but it's limited in its usability. For example, it does not fix red-eye in animals and it won't add any colour back into the damaged eye. You may still find that you prefer your existing processes for removing red-eye.

The new Warp tool lets you wrap an image around an object or deform it to a shape. While the Vanishing Point tool does a similar thing for flat objects, the new Warp tool can be used to do this for objects that have a curved surface. This tool works very similarly to the Warp Type tool, which has been a feature of Photoshop for some time now. To use it, you must make a selection around the object to wrap. For example, to select the background layer, go to Select → All, then click Edit → Transform → Warp and the Warp dialog will appear. You can drag on any point in the grid to adjust how the image is deformed, or you can choose from a series of preset shapes, which appear on the



The new Adobe Bridge lets you assign colour labels to your images, then use the filter to view only ones with certain colour labels.

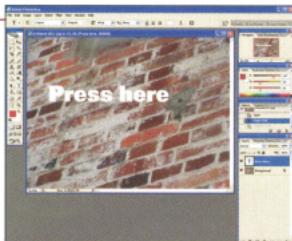
GET A TRIAL VERSION

If you don't have Adobe Photoshop CS2, you can download a free trial version from the Adobe Web site at www.adobe.com/products/tryadobe/main.jsp. This trial version will run for 30 days and you can use it to step through the examples shown here and edit images of your own.

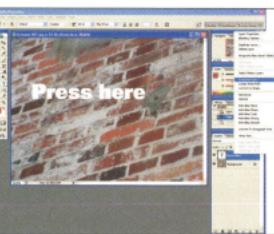
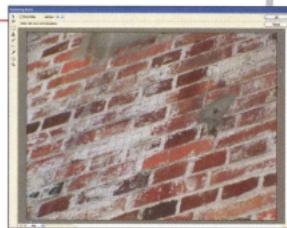
STEP BY STEP WORK WITH PERSPECTIVE

The new Vanishing Point filter in Photoshop helps you work with perspective in your images, whether you're cloning elements or, as we show here, adding text or other objects to an image.

1 With your image open in Photoshop, add the text using a new text layer. Click the Text tool, choose the font and size, and type the text onto your image. In the next steps, you'll make it run in correct perspective, taking into account the image you're placing it on.



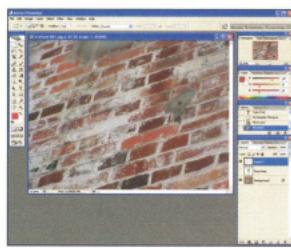
4 Go to Filter → Vanishing Point. Click the 'Create Plane' tool in the top-left of the screen and click and drag to create a grid over the image. Adjust the grid so that it lines up along the perspective lines in your image. Use the vertical and horizontal edges of the objects to ensure the grid is correct.



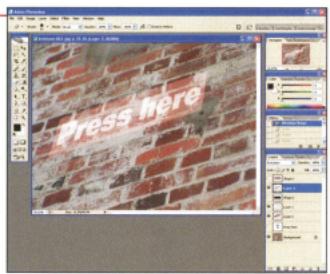
2 Rasterize the text by right-clicking the text layer and selecting 'Rasterize Type'. This converts the text from a vector object that is editable to rasterized, or bitmap text that is simply made up of pixels and which can't be edited.



5 Paste the clipboard object by pressing Ctrl-V, then drag the text into position on the grid. As you do so, notice that the text conforms to the angles that you have drawn over the image. Transform the text by using the Transform tool, and then shrink or widen it as required. When you are done, click OK to return to the document.



3 Make a large selection around the text and go to Edit → Copy to copy the text to the clipboard. Hide the text layer by clicking the layer visibility icon to disable it, and add a new layer by clicking Layer → New Layer and then OK. Finally, disable the selection marquee by clicking Select → Deselect.



'Warp Shapes' menu. These shapes include arcs, bulges, shells, waves and so on. There is also a fish-eye and an inflate option, both of which curve the image outwards. If you choose a preset option, such as Inflate, you can then select

the Custom option and finetune the effect to suit your needs. When you are done, click the 'Commit transform' button to apply the adjustment to your image.

If you work with Photoshop regularly, one feature that may

confuse you initially, but which will be useful, is the ability to Shift-click on a series of layers to create a set of linked layers. When you do this, the layers can then all be manipulated as a group. For example, you can move them all together.

There is plenty else that is new in Photoshop CS2; go to Help → Photoshop Help, and then click the 'New Features' link to see a list of the new features and links to more information about using them.

Mix it up with ACID XPress

Philip Moore shows you how to create and mix music in ACID XPress.

Last month we gave you an overview of what you need to know about making music on the PC. This month, we get down to business and actually make some noise. With the new version of Sony's ACID Pro 5 music software now available, we thought we'd use the free version, ACID XPress, to get you up and running.

There are three basic approaches to modern digital music: audio, MIDI and loops. These three cross over and intermingle in various ways, but it is important to know that they all have different methodologies and standards to deal with. We explained what these were last month. ACID is primarily a loop- or sample-based program. It does offer some audio and MIDI capabilities, especially in the Pro version, but at its heart, and certainly in the XPress version we're going to be using, looping is what it's all about.

Getting started

Once you install ACID XPress you'll need to register it. After that, when the program first starts, it loads a sample song. Have a listen, and look at how this song is prepared. You can zoom in and out by simply grabbing the scrollbar at the bottom of the track window and lengthening or shortening it.

The song uses all three types of music: audio, MIDI and loops. It is mostly loops, of course, but the MIDI Bass and MIDI Keys tracks play MIDI data out to a DLS softsynth. DLS is ACID's own standard, similar

to VSTi or DXi (supported by ACID Pro), but not nearly as universal. The softsynth used here is supplied with ACID XPress and is a simple GS FM device, which is fine for playing around with. But understand that MIDI can sound so much better. It all depends on the quality of the synth being used.

There is also a simple audio clip on the last track titled 'Piccolo crash'. This is simply a sample of a cymbal that has not been turned into a loop. You can easily tell what type of track it is by the icon that appears on the left-hand side, next to the track number. A curved arrow is a loop, a pointing arrow is an audio track, and a 'plug' (representing the five-pin MIDI plug standard) is for MIDI.

Dealing with MIDI

Look in the mixer pane down in the bottom-right, and double-click on one of the MIDI tracks you will see there. This will reveal the softsynth properties for that MIDI track. The MIDI features in ACID XPress are incredibly basic, but here's an overview of their capabilities.

There are 16 MIDI channels per synth. This is all the MIDI standard allows for. Synths that offer more than 16 channels do this by creating 'banks': each one consisting of 16 channels. Each channel can have a different musical instrument sound applied to it. So, you can potentially have 16 MIDI instruments, all going at once from the same synth. Click the 'Enable Real-time' button in the top-right of this softsynth panel and this will allow you to click the piano keyboard onscreen with your mouse and play the MIDI notes.

Try changing the instrument by clicking any one of the 127 available voices. They may not sound too much like a violin or

guitar or whatever due to the limitations of this particular synth, but you will certainly hear a difference in the sound. To be honest, the way ACID XPress handles MIDI is rather confusing and limiting. I would recommend you don't try to use the MIDI features. They are not the best example of what MIDI is capable of.

Looping in ACID

Start with a fresh slate and open a new project. Audio clips in ACID can be imported directly from any .wav files you have on your system, or instrument samples you can download from a variety of Web sites.

Find a .wav file you want and drag it from the Explorer pane onto the track window. A new track will then be created for you with the name of the file, but nothing will appear in the track. ACID works by having you 'paint' in the tracks. So, with your mouse, drag and draw along the empty track, and the audio clip that belongs to this new track will appear. If it is a short sample and you draw past its full duration, it will instantly loop even if it isn't designed as a looping clip. You will see this as a little notch in the top and bottom of the clip on screen. This is the looping point.

Drag and drop more such clips onto the timeline and draw them in. You may notice something unusual. For the most part, they will all seem to sync together perfectly, and even sound in tune with each other. This is because the tempo and key signature has already been set to a default and all the clips are conforming to this. The default is 4/4 time, 120 beats per minute (bpm), in the key of A Major. You will see this in the lower-left of the timeline pane. Try changing this to see what happens. Change the key and

WHERE TO GET IT

ACID XPress can be found on the August PC User cover discs, or you can download it from <http://tinyurl.com/8yy2z>.

then change the tempo (the bpm value). Hear the difference?

Take a look at the Explorer window. If you are using loops designed for ACID, there are certain properties embedded into each file. Select one of these files and it will audition for you. Look at the properties displayed along the taskbar at the bottom. You will see how many beats it lasts for and at what tempo. It will also tell you the root note, followed by the sample rate and quality information.

The root note is the note that this sound was originally played at. If your key matches this Root note then the sample will play back exactly as recorded. However, if your key is different, the sample will be pitch-shifted up or down on the fly to match the note it should be in the new key. Likewise, the bpm is what this sample was originally designed to play at. But if you have a tempo faster or slower than this, it will simply be sped up or slowed down to match. You barely have to think about it; ACID takes care of all that.

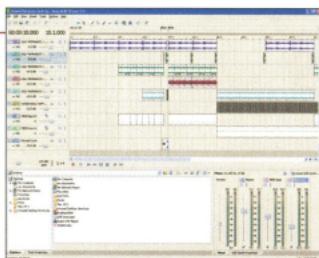
If there is nothing shown on the root note then you are no doubt looking at a percussion track, because percussion and drums have no root note. You don't want them changing in pitch.

Mixing in ACID

You don't have to simply draw in a complete sample and have it loop. You can cut up these clips and just use bits of them. When you click the cursor on the timeline, you will notice that it jumps to each beat. Select a

STEP BY STEP CREATE MUSIC WITH ACID XPRESS

1 When ACID Xpress first starts, it loads a sample song. If you have a close look, the sample song contains tracks of all sorts: audio, MIDI and loops.



5 In the lower-left of the timeline pane, you'll notice the tempo, the beats per minute (bpm) and what key the song is in.

120.000 4 BPM A



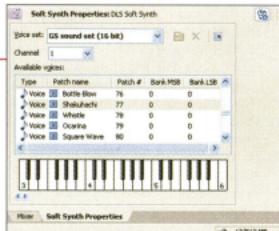
2 It's easy to tell at a glance what type of track is in a song because the symbols next to the track give it away. A curved arrow is a loop, a pointing arrow is an audio track, and a plug is for MIDI.

6 Along the bottom of the Properties box for each file, you will see the original tempo and root note, as well as the sample rate and quality information about the clip.



Audio: Loop, 16 beats at 96.5 BPM, Root note: B3, 128 Kbps, 44,100 Hz, Stereo, MPEG Layer-3

3 Double-click on a MIDI track and you can take a closer look at the properties for the MIDI file.



4 Load a .wav file by dragging it from the Explorer pane onto the track window. Then, drag and draw along the empty track to display the audio clip.



7 You can do all sorts of things with your tracks: delete bits of tracks, copy and paste parts of the track, split the track and drag them around. The possibilities are endless.



beat and clip, and then press the S key on your keyboard to spit a clip in two. You can do this on every beat if you want: delete the bits you don't want and keep just one small part of the larger sample, such as the bass drum.

You can copy and paste these snippets by Ctrl-dragging, or using the standard Copy and

Paste commands from the Edit menu. Ctrl-B will allow you to paste multiple times. You can also drag the ends of clips to lengthen or shorten them, just as you did when first drawing it. Of course, you can also grab them with the mouse and move them around.

One quirk of ACID, and this

is true for all versions, is that each track can only have the clip — or segments of it — that it was first created with. You cannot add other loops to an existing track; they must go on their own dedicated track.

These basic principles of ACID make the program quite unique and easy to use, as well

as quite powerful. Working with loops designed for the program, it takes no time at all to build up something original and that sounds great. To create your own ACID loops, you will need a copy of Sony Sound Forge, but that is for a later column. For now, enjoy making music with ACID Xpress. ☺

First steps with Web images

Helen Bradley
explains the basics of
working with images
on your Web site.

Images are the visual entertainment of the Internet and it would be a very dull place without them. When you're designing a Web site, pictures are a key element you will include on your pages. HTML offers tags you use to position and format images, as well as optimise how your pages load. This month we look at these and some tricks for layering text over images, including an introduction to CSS positioning techniques.

Choosing images

Before you begin to add images to your Web pages, it is important to understand what kind of images you can use. For still images, the two formats that are universally acceptable on the Web are .jpg and .gif. Use .jpg to save photographs and complex coloured graphics, and .gif to save simple line art. The former is a compressed and lossy format, and the image data is compressed in such a way that the lost data can never be recovered. On the other hand, .gif is not a lossy format, although it is limited to 256 colours, which makes it suitable for simple images like line drawings, but generally inappropriate for photographs.

To include an image on a Web page, you will use an **img** tag with the name of the image inside it. For example, to include the image cat.jpg on a page, use the code ****. This will display the cat.jpg image on the page in the

place in which the tag is located. It assumes that there is an image called cat.jpg on the server, and that it is in the same location as the Web page that is referring to it.

It is important when you name your files that you use the same text case for the entry cat.jpg in the HTML code and for the filename itself. Some server operating systems such as Unix are case sensitive, so that server will assume that CAT.jpg is a different file to cat.jpg. This is the first thing you should check if your image does not appear on your Web page and there is simply a red cross displayed instead.

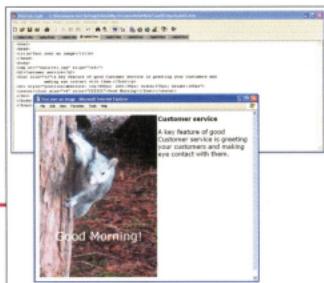
Organising images

While you can put your Web site images in the same folder as the Web page HTML files, this can get very messy. A better approach is to put the images in their own folder and to then refer to the filename and folder name in the image tag. So, for example, to load the file cat.jpg into a Web page where this file is located in a folder called 'images', one level below the place in which the HTML page is located, use this code: ****.

Wrapping text

An image placed on a page using an **img** tag will be placed in line in the text in the page, which is generally a very ugly result. A better solution is to align images so that text wraps around them. To do this, you use the **align** attribute of the **img** tag. For example, to align an image on the left of the page so the text wraps around it to the right, you would use ****. The text that follows the **img** tag in the HTML code will then wrap around to the right of the image

Using CSS positioning, it is possible to place text over an image.



and continue to do so until the end of the image is reached, when the text will scroll back to the left margin. You can align the image to the right with the text scrolling to the left by replacing **align="left"** with **align="right"**.

To stop the text wrapping around the image before the bottom of the image has been reached, use a break code. Include this at the point at which you want to return the text to the margin: **<br clear="left">** or **<br clear="right">**.

Text wrapped around an image sits perilously close to the image; in general, much too close. It looks better if you add spacing around the image, but the downside to doing this in HTML is that you must add space to both the left and right of the image or both the top and bottom of the image, and you cannot specify one side or the other exclusively.

To add spacing around an image, use the **hspace** or **vspace** attribute in the **img** tag. So, to add 10 pixels of space to the left and right side of an image so that the text will sit slightly away from it, you would use this: ****.

If you don't like the look of additional space being added to the left and right of the image, add the space into the image itself using your graphics software. Open the image, add the extra space to the canvas to the right of the image, ensuring it is coloured to match the page background, and save it. The extra spacing will give the impression that the text is actually being pushed away

from the image.

Sizing images

HTML lets you specify the height and width of an image in the **img** tag. It is advisable to do this for all images, particularly large ones, as the browser will read this code and allocate the required space for the image on the page. When the browser knows the image dimensions, it can render the page before the image is fully downloaded from the server. To specify the height and width of an image use a tag something similar to this: ****.

If you specify a height and width that are different to the actual image height and width, the image will be sized to match the dimensions that you have specified. This is a technique to use when you want to use a single image repeatedly on a Web site; in some places at full size and in other places at a reduced size.

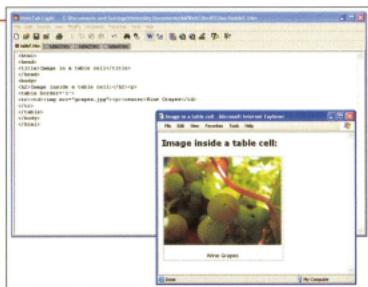
When adding an image to a Web page, it is courtesy to visitors who browse with image display turned off or using a text-to-speech browser to add **alt** tags with a description of the image. They will see this tag in place of the image, so they will know what the image displays. A typical **alt** tag for our sample image might be ****.

Images as hyperlinks

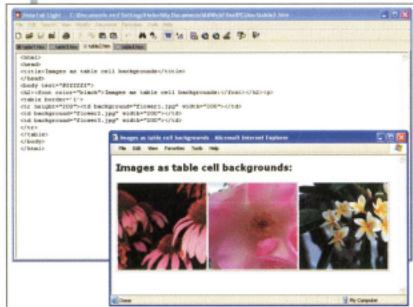
To make an image clickable so it does something, such as launch another Web page or a larger image, you must place it in a hyperlink. This is an example of

USE TABLES WITH IMAGES

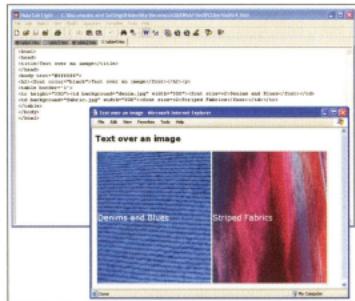
To add an image to a table cell, create the table using HTML code and place the **img** tag inside the **td** elements. The image will appear inside the table cell.



To use an image as a table background, place the **background** attribute in the **table** tag rather than the **td** tag. The image will then appear behind the entire table.



To use an image as a table cell background, use the **background** attribute of the table data **<td>** tag for every cell to have a background image.



To place text over an image in a table cell, place the image in the cell as a background inside the **td** tag and then type the text into the table cell itself.

an image hyperlink that a visitor can click to be taken to the page specified: ``.

Images as backgrounds

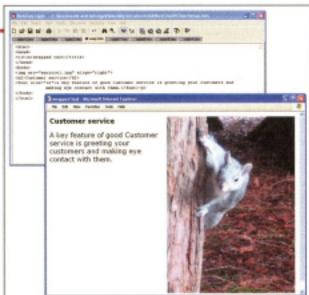
As well as using images as decorative elements, you can also use them as Web site backgrounds. When you add an image as a background, it will be tiled to fit the page if it is not big enough to fill the browser window. To make your image appear only once on the page you can build it, in your graphics program, so it is large enough that it will not be tiled. To add an image as a page background image, use `<body background="texture.jpg">`.

Text over images

The step-by-step example above shows how to use images with tables, and includes an example of an image with text placed over the top of it using a table.

It is also possible to do this using CSS and without using a table. To do this, place the image in the document and use a **div** element to position the text over the top. For example, the code below will perform the task on an image that is 400 by 550 pixels. The placement options in this example define three things: how far down from the top of the page and in from the margin the text will be placed, and the container size that it is limited to.

Using the **align-right** attribute in an image tag lets you wrap text around the image to the left.



```

<div style="position: absolute; top:400px; left:30px; width:370px; height:100px">
<center>My cat Molly</center></div>
```

There are many ways to use

images on your Web pages, so keep these HTML tags in mind to ensure you optimise their use and manage them better on your Web site. ☺

Your technical problems solved

Help Station's heavyweights will knock out your PC problems.

OFFICE APPLICATIONS

Prevent format changes

Q I have an Excel worksheet that others use. It's critical the column widths stay as they are so the spreadsheet prints correctly, but others who use the spreadsheet continually change them. What can I do?
— Peter Maverick

THE JOURNAL OF CLIMATE

A Here's how to protect your spreadsheet.

Specify the column widths as a fixed value, so they do not change when data in the worksheet changes. To do this, click Format → Column → Width and set a predetermined width for the column. Using this

option will fix the column width and, regardless of the length of the entry in any cell in that column, the column width will not alter.

2 Select the entire worksheet by clicking the cell at the intersection of the rows and columns in the top-left corner of the sheet. Click Format → Cells → Protection, remove the tick from the Locked checkbox and click OK. This ensures that the contents of all cells in the spreadsheet may be altered in future.

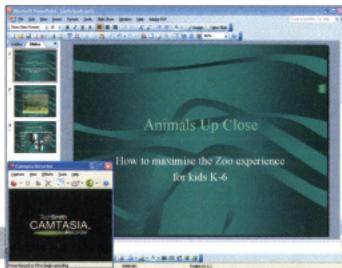
3 Protect the worksheet by clicking Tools —> Protection —> Protect sheet and ticking all the checkboxes except the 'Format columns' box. Type a password if required, although if you're simply trying to discourage people from altering column widths, you probably don't need to do this. Click OK and the worksheet will then be protected.

Because of the options you selected, the worksheet is protected against any changes a user might make to the column widths. The Format → Column menu choices are disabled and, in addition, it is no longer possible to drag the marker between the column headings to alter the column widths.

— Helen Bradley

PowerPoint
on TV

Q I have produced a PowerPoint presentation. I want to play it on a DVD using a television set that is not connected to the computer. Can this be done?
— Harold Wong



With a screen capture tool like Camtasia you can create a PowerPoint movie and write it to a DVD for playing on a TV.

Instead, use a tool like Sonic MyDVD (www.sonic.com) or one of the Nero products (www.nero.com) to make the DVD. In Sonic MyDVD, click the 'Get Movies' button and add the movie to your DVD. If there are multiple movies, add each of them and configure your movie menus. To burn the DVD, save the project and use the 'Burn options' to burn a disc. Once complete, you can play the DVD on any television set and PowerPoint won't be required.

A simpler alternative is to buy a program such as PowerPoint2DVD (www.powerpoint-to-dvd.com). This program costs almost US\$100, but it can handle the whole process for you. If you often need to convert PowerPoint presentations to DVD format, it may be worth the investment.

Function fails

Q I have a complex worksheet on which I created a function to make some routine calculations. As this function is needed for other worksheets, I created it on one worksheet, then copied and pasted it to a new module in a new worksheet and saved it as an Excel add-in .xla file. The add-in is listed in the "Tools/Add-in" list and it works perfectly with all other worksheets. Unfortunately, when I remove the function

from the original worksheet (because it is no longer needed there — it's available via the add-in), the cell references fail and the function shows a #NAME? error in all cells that reference the function. Even if I re-enter the formula in the cell, the same problem occurs. The original worksheet simply refuses to see the Excel add-in file and its functions. Can you help?

— Fergus Darvell

A This is an interesting problem. I have managed to duplicate your problem and you are right. The Excel formula fails spectacularly when the original function does not exist on that particular worksheet, even though it exists in the add-in file.

One possible solution is to copy all the sheets in the current workbook to a new file, as these can then be made to recognise the Excel add-in. To do this, follow these steps.

- 1 Select all the sheets by clicking the first sheet tab and then Ctrl-clicking the last one.
- 2 Go to Edit —> 'Move or copy sheet' and tick the 'Create a copy' checkbox.
- 3 From the 'To Book' dropdown list, choose 'New book' and click OK. The selected sheets will be copied to a brand-new workbook. You will see that the #NAME? errors still appear, but in this case, you can click each problem cell in turn, press F2 and then Enter and the cell will recalculate using the function from the add-in file, and the error will disappear.

— Helen Bradley

Automated responses

Q I have a Word template document and I want the user to answer Yes or No to a series of questions. My users have complained that it is a nuisance to have to type Yes and No all the time. Is there a method I could use, perhaps with a macro, to make the process easier for them?

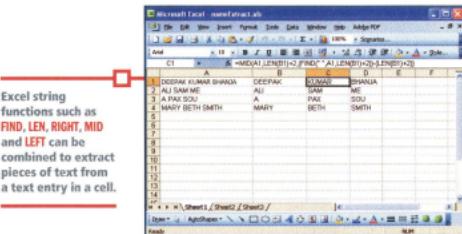
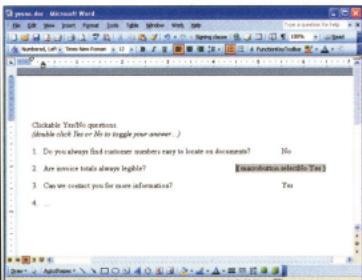
— Name not supplied

A Create a macrobutton field, which will toggle the words Yes and No in a document. To see this at work, first make sure you have the 'Show Codes' button enabled (click the Show/Hide button on the Standard toolbar). Then:

- 1 Click at the position in the document where you want to put the first Yes/No toggle.
- 2 Press Ctrl-F9 to create field code brackets and, inside these type **Macrobutton** **selectYes**, then click outside the codes.
- 3 Select the code and press Shift-F9 so only the word Yes appears on the screen.
- 4 Select the word Yes (but not the paragraph marker after it), and click Insert —> AutoText —> New. Type the name **selectNo** and click OK.
- 5 Redisplay the macro field you just created by selecting it and press Shift-F9.
- 6 Change the wording between the field code braces to read **Macrobutton** **selectYes**.
- 7 Press Shift-F9 to hide the code, select the word No (but not any trailing paragraph marker) and create a second macrobutton.

— Helen Bradley

Using the macrobutton field, you can create a toggle to switch between two words in a Word document.



AutoText entry by clicking Insert —> AutoText —> New. Call this entry **selectYes**.

Once you've set this up, create two macros called **selectYes** and **selectNo** to toggle the display by following these steps.

- 1 Click Tools —> Macro —> Visual Basic Editor.
- 2 In the Visual Basic Editor, click Insert —> Module.
- 3 Type the code in **Code A** below into the window.
- 4 Click the Save button on the toolbar and name your document, then close the Visual Basic Editor.

Test the macrobutton field by double-clicking the word Yes — it will change to No, and vice versa. You can create multiple Yes/No fields simply by clicking the one you've created and copying and pasting it to other sections of your document as needed.

There is a file on the cover discs called yesno.doc that contains this solution for you to try out. Note: you may need to adjust the macro security level to run the macros successfully in yesno.doc. To do that, click Tools —> Macro —> Security and set the macro security to Medium. This will allow you to choose whether or not to run macros contained within a document.

— Helen Bradley

Axe the task pane

Q I use Microsoft Office 2003 and I absolutely hate the 'Insert ClipArt' task pane. It seems to work extremely slowly, if at all, and I get frustrated with having to search for a clip by name when I'd really rather browse the images myself. Is there a workable solution?

— C. Schumann

A There are some workarounds. I like to use the Clip Organizer, which is faster than using the search tool, and it lets you preview images and select those you want to use. Click Insert —> Picture —> Clip Art and click the 'Organize' link at the foot of the task pane. Or better still, open it directly from the Windows desktop by clicking Start —> Microsoft Office —> Microsoft Clip Organizer. If you use it frequently, add it to your Quick Launch bar by holding the Ctrl key while you drag and drop the icon from the Programs menu onto your Quick Launch bar. When you locate an image to use in the Organizer, drag and drop it into your application.

— Helen Bradley

CODE A

```
Sub selectNo()
  ActiveDocument.AttachedTemplate.AutoTextEntries("selectYes").Insert Where:=Selection.Range
End Sub

Sub selectYes()
  ActiveDocument.AttachedTemplate.AutoTextEntries("selectNo").Insert Where:=Selection.Range
End Sub
```

INTERNET

Small text online

Q Some Web sites use very small text, making them hard for me to read. I tried to increase the text size using Internet Explorer's 'Text Size' setting (View → Text Size → Largest), but on many sites this seems to have no effect. Is there any way I can increase the text size on such sites?

— C. Q.

A You're right, the 'Text Size' setting doesn't always work, but there's good news for your aching eyes. You can get around the problem this way:

- 1 In Internet Explorer, select Internet Options from the Tools menu.
- 2 On the General tab, click the Accessibility button.
- 3 In the Formatting section, place a tick beside 'Ignore font sizes specified on Web pages'.
- 4 Click OK twice to exit. This should help with most sites.

Unfortunately, on some it will probably cause the text to

appear jumbled. In that case, you'll need to remove the tick from 'Ignore font sizes specified on Web pages' to view the page correctly.

If you use Firefox or Mozilla, you can try to increase text size by pressing **Ctrl** + (that is, hold down the **Ctrl** key and press the 'plus' key (+) on the numeric keypad). **Ctrl** - (the minus key) will decrease the size; **Ctrl** 0 (zero on the main keyboard, not the numeric keypad) returns the text to its original size.

— Rose Vines

Blocking programs

Q I use ZoneAlarm to protect my computer while I'm on the Internet. When I'm surfing, ZoneAlarm often asks whether I want to allow certain programs to access the Net. How do I know which I should allow and which I should block?

— Margaret Brown

A ZoneAlarm, like most software firewalls, monitors

when a program on your computer wants to access the Web and when some sort of probe has been made from the Internet to your computer. The trick, as you've discovered, is knowing which ones to allow, and which ones to prevent.

Obviously, you should block almost all probes from outside. Outbound programs, though, need a more selective response. If a program you know to be safe wants to access the Web, it's usually OK to allow it. For example, you would always allow your Web browser access.

If an unknown program wants to access the Web, be cautious. Chances are it's OK, but it could be a Trojan (virus) or another nasty. Such activity, for instance, is often a telltale sign of so-called advertising spyware, which stealthily collects information about your usage of a program and uploads it when you're online.

Before allowing an unknown program to access the Web, do some research. One way is to use search engines on the Web to look

up the name of the program, and see if they say it is benign or malicious. Another is to check the Readme file that came with the latest signature file for your virus scanning software.

One of the problems is that firewall programs often identify a program trying to access the Web by the actual filename instead of the program's common name. For instance, your firewall may say **explorer.exe** is trying to access the Web instead of Internet Explorer. If you don't recognise the program name, you can always use Windows' Find or Search command (available via the Start menu) to locate the specified filename and see by its location whether it appears to be installed as part of a program you recognise. If so, let it have access.

After a while, as you 'train' your firewall to recognise legitimate programs, you won't have to monitor the activity constantly.

— Rose Vines

WINDOWS

Lost Windows key

Q I want to reinstall Windows 98 Second Edition, but I've lost the CD key. Is there any way to retrieve it?

— Larry Bridge

A The Windows product key is stored in the Registry. You can either retrieve it directly from the Registry or, more simply, grab it from the 'System Properties' dialog. To open System Properties, press Windows key+Pause/Break, or right-click My Computer and select Properties. The CD key should appear in the 'Registered to:' section of the General tab.

If it doesn't appear in System Properties or if you want to find the key in your Registry, here's how to do it.

1 Click Start → Run, type **regedit** in the Open box and click OK to open Registry Editor. Make sure you don't fiddle with anything in the Registry Editor while you have it open — you can cause all sorts of problems for Windows if you don't know what you're doing.

2 Double-click **HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE** → **Software** → **Microsoft** → **Windows**. Then click **CurrentVersion**.

3 In the right-hand pane, look for the item named **ProductKey** (if you use Windows XP, the key is named **ProductID**). The value you see there is your Windows CD key.

4 Note down the key and then choose Exit from the Registry

menu to close the Registry Editor.

To save yourself this trouble in the future, make sure you write the product key on the CD itself (on the printed side, not the data side, of course). In fact, you should do this with all CDs you own. It's easy to lose track of jewel cases, manuals and other items bearing the required

product key, so having the key on the CD itself is the best solution. You can write on a CD using a fine, felt-tip pen.

— Rose Vines

Choosing which program to use

Q Sometimes I use Notepad to edit text files and other times I use Word. Is there a way to make Windows give me a choice of editor when I open a text file?

— Nella Jenkins

A Usually, there's a one-to-one correlation between file types and the applications used to open them. In technical parlance, people say a particular program is *associated* with a particular type of document.

For instance, .doc files are usually opened by Microsoft

Retrieve your Windows CD key from 'System Properties'.





The 'Open With' command lets you choose which application will open a specific type of document.

type **Open With Word.**

6 Click the Browse button and navigate to the folder where the Word application is stored (by default, it's C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\Office — the name of that final folder will vary depending on the version of Office you use). Double-click winword.exe to insert its name into the 'Application used to perform action' box.

7 Click OK and then click Close to exit.

In Windows Me and XP:

1 Open any folder or Windows Explorer window.

2 From the View menu, select 'Folder Options'.

3 In the 'Folder Options' dialog, click the 'File Types' tab.

4 Scroll down the 'Registered File Types' list until you find the TXT file type.

5 Click the Advanced button and the 'Edit File Type' dialog will be displayed.

6 Click the New button and the 'New Action' dialog will be displayed.

7 In the Action box, type **Open With Word** and then click the Browse button to locate the Word application. Double-click it to insert its name correctly in the 'New Action' dialog.

8 Click OK twice and then Close to exit from the dialog boxes.

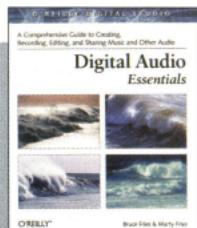
Now, when you double-click a .txt file, it will open in the default application, Notepad. If you want to open it in Word, right-click the file and select your new 'Open With Word' option from the pop-up menu.

You can add as many of these customised 'Open With' commands as you like, but each command must have a unique name (for instance, Open, 'Open With Word', 'Open With WordPad', and so on).

Windows Me and XP also keep a list of applications you've recently used to open a particular file type and create their own 'Open With' submenu. For example, if you edit a .bmp file in both Microsoft Paint and Paint Shop Pro, when you right-click any .bmp file you'll find an 'Open With' option and a cascading menu that lets you choose either Paint or Paint Shop Pro. This is useful because it minimises the list of options on the right-click menu.

All you have to do is to get a program inserted onto this submenu is to use the File —> Open (or File —> New) option within the program with the appropriate file type. You can also add programs to this submenu by using the 'Choose Program' option on the submenu itself.

— Rose Vines



BOOK REVIEW

Digital Audio Essentials

This book provides a great resource for digital audio novices and experienced users alike. It introduces the basics, such as listening to digital music on your PC and portable audio devices, and then continues on to more advanced topics, including capturing, editing and distributing audio. You'll learn how to connect your stereo to your computer and digitise your vinyl and tapes, as well as how to set up an Internet radio station. There are step-by-step examples for common tasks, although the book is quite text heavy. Unfortunately, the chapter devoted to copyright only covers US laws, so readers will have to look elsewhere for this information.

— Olga Jevdic

Price: \$65 **Contact:** Woodslane
Phone: (02) 9970 5111 **Web:** www.woodslane.com.au

GRAPHICS

PAINT SHOP PRO DUOTONES

Q I am used to creating duotone images in Adobe Photoshop at work. At home I have only Paint Shop Pro available. It appears Paint Shop Pro does not allow you to create a duotone image. Is this correct or is there another way to do this? — Name not supplied

A Paint Shop Pro does not have a feature that allows you to create duotone or tritone images in the same way you can in Photoshop, but you can get a similar effect using the 'Blend Ranges' tool. You may be unfamiliar with this since it is not a commonly used tool, but it does a very good job.

1 Start with an image that has good contrast. If the contrast is not adequate, perform a Levels or Histogram adjustment to fix it before you begin.

2 Click Adjust —> Hue and Saturation —> Hue/Saturation/ Lightness and drag the Saturation slider to -100 to remove all the colour from the image. Click OK.

3 Duplicate the layer by clicking Layer —> Duplicate. Then, display the Layer palette by pressing the F8 key and selecting

the bottom layer in the image.

4 Click Adjust —> Hue and Saturation —> Colorize. You then need to select a colour and saturation for the darks in the image and click OK.

5 Select the top layer of the image (right now, you will see no change to the final image) and again click Adjust —> Hue and Saturation —> Colorize. Choose a colour for the lighter areas of the image and click OK when you are done.

6 Right-click the top layer and select Properties —> Blend Ranges. On the slider marked 'This Layer', drag the top of the two sliders on the left of the dialog to the right, about halfway across. If you have the preview enabled, you will see that doing this drags the bottom colour up so it shows through the top image, and you'll see the dark areas of the image are coloured with the colours from the bottom layer. The light areas remain the colour of the top layer. Adjust the sliders until you get a pleasing result.

This 'Blend Range' slider can be readjusted later if you need to tweak the final result.

— Helen Bradley

Copying and pasting tips

Think you know everything about copying and pasting? Think again, says Rose Vines.

When you first start using a computer, learning the required techniques and processes is not usually the biggest stumbling block. The big hurdle is grasping all the new concepts and understanding them deeply enough that you can then focus on step-by-step techniques. Once the concepts start falling into place, acquiring new skills and exploring new programs becomes remarkably easy. But if you're still at the point of wondering 'What's a menu?' or 'What's the difference between storage and memory?' then learning the nuances of how to use a database or edit

TOP TIP

Clone a document in Word

The following macro automatically selects all the text in the current Word document, copies it to the clipboard, creates a new blank document and pastes the contents of the clipboard into that document.

To create the macro:

1. Click Tools → Macro → Macros.
2. Type **CopyAll** in the 'Macro Name' box, select Normal.dot from the 'Macros In' list and click Create to open the Visual Basic Editor.
3. Between the **Sub CopyAll()** and **End Sub** statements, type the following:


```
Selection.WholeStory
      Selection.Copy
      Documents.Add DocumentType:=wdNewBlankDocument
      Selection.PasteAndFormat (wdPasteDefault)
      4. Close the Visual Basic Editor.
```

a graphics file is a tough slog.

For beginners, one important concept to grasp is the role of the clipboard. The clipboard is the key to copying, cutting and pasting — three of the most useful techniques you'll ever acquire. Even those who've been using computers for years fail to exploit these shortcuts to the full.

Meet the clipboard

The clipboard is a tool that lets you copy or cut something from one location and paste it into another. That something may be a slab of text, an image, a fragment of an audio clip, an entire file, or even a group of folders and all the files contained within.

The clipboard is useful, but not particularly smart. In fact, it can hold only one thing in its memory at a time. So, if you copy a column of figures from a spreadsheet onto the clipboard and then copy a paragraph of text from your word processor, the text will replace the spreadsheet figures.

Although the clipboard's memory capacity is limited, its retention is impressive: once you place an item on the clipboard, it remains there either until you place another

item on the clipboard or until you log out of Windows. That means once something is on the clipboard, you can paste it into one location and then another and another. You can copy that column of figures from your spreadsheet and paste it into another worksheet page or an entirely different spreadsheet; you can also paste them into your word processor or even into a graphics program.

Note that although you can copy and paste from one application to another, once you've copied an item into a new application, you can no longer manipulate it in the same way you could in its original location. Take that column of figures: in your spreadsheet, you can use the spreadsheet functions to sum the numbers or change the contents of a cell, but if you paste that column into a graphics program, all you end up with is an image of the figures.

You have a choice of two techniques for transferring information via the clipboard. Copying and pasting copies an item to the clipboard while leaving the original intact; you can then paste the clipboard contents into as many new

locations as you want. Cutting and pasting deletes the item from the original and moves it to the clipboard, ready for pasting elsewhere.

Selection techniques

The key to unlocking the power of copying and pasting is to master selection techniques. Before you can copy anything to the clipboard, you must first select it. The item you select may be a single word, a series of paragraphs, or even an entire spreadsheet.

Table 1 shows you some common selection techniques in Microsoft Word. Most of these techniques will work in any word processing program and similar techniques apply to many other applications as well.

Most basic selection is performed either by clicking or double-clicking an item, or by clicking and dragging over an item. The selected item will be highlighted. You can then copy the selection to the clipboard using any of these techniques:

- ◆ Press Ctrl-C.
- ◆ Right-click the selection and select Copy from the pop-up menu.
- ◆ Click the Copy button on the toolbar.
- ◆ Go to Edit → Copy.

TABLE 1: MICROSOFT WORD SELECTION TECHNIQUES

To select:	Do this:
A word	Double-click the word
A paragraph	Triple-click within the paragraph
A sentence	Ctrl-click within the sentence
A line of text	Position the mouse pointer in the margin to the left of the line (so it appears as a rightwards pointing arrow) and click
A slab of contiguous text	Click and drag over the text
A slab of contiguous text (alternate method)	Click at the beginning of the text you wish to select, then Shift-click at the end of the selection
A series of lines of text	Position the mouse pointer in the margin to the left of the first line and drag downwards
An entire document	Press Ctrl-A
An entire document (alternate method)	Triple-click in the left margin
A vertical block of text	Alt-click and drag over the text
A column within a table	Position the pointer at the top of the column (it appears as a down arrow) and click
A series of columns within a table	Position the pointer at the top of one column and click and drag over the other columns
A series of non-adjacent columns within a table	Position the pointer at the top of one column and then Ctrl-click the other columns
A row within a table	Use the same technique as selecting a line of text

STEP BY STEP COPYING TECHNIQUES

Many graphics programs provide a special selection tool (in Paint Shop Pro it's known as a Magic Wand), which lets you select colour-related segments of an image and then copy and paste those segments. It's a neat way to cut a figure out of one background and paste it into another.



To paste the item into a new location — it could be in the same document, in a different document or even in a different application — click to position the insertion point where you want to paste the text, and then do any of the following:

- ◆ Press Ctrl-V (or Ctrl-Ins).
- ◆ Right-click and select Paste from the pop-up menu.
- ◆ Click the Paste button on the toolbar.
- ◆ Go to Edit —> Paste.

To make more advanced

selections such as selecting multiple items simultaneously, hold down the Ctrl, Shift or Alt keys while clicking. Table 1 shows examples of these techniques.

The important thing to remember is that copying and pasting works almost everywhere in Windows: in your applications, within My Documents and other folders, even in dialog boxes and some error message alerts. Thus you can copy and paste not only the contents of a document — or a selected portion thereof — but also entire folders full of files. Try experimenting with selection everywhere: in the headers of emails you receive, on Web pages and in your graphics program.

One word of caution for beginners: whenever an item is selected/highlighted, anything you type replaces that selection. For example, if you select a series of paragraphs in Microsoft Word and then accidentally brush the spacebar, the selected text will suddenly disappear to be replaced by a space. Because of this, it's important to deselect your selection as soon as you've performed the copy or cut operation. That way, there's no

chance of accidentally nuking your own document.

Copying files and folders

Copying and pasting works equally well at the file and folder level as it does within applications. For example, try this technique.

- 1 Open My Documents and click any file within it.
- 2 Hold down the Ctrl key while clicking a number of additional files.
- 3 Right-click any of the highlighted files and select Copy from the pop-up menu.
- 4 Double-click the My Pictures subfolder to open it.
- 5 Right-click in an empty space within My Pictures and select Paste. You've copied the selected files into My Pictures. Had you used the Cut command instead

of the Copy command, you would have *moved* the files to My Pictures.

To undo what you've just done, right-click immediately within My Pictures and select 'Undo Copy' from the pop-up menu that appears.

Note that you're not restricted to selecting files: you can apply the same techniques to entire folders as well.

File and folder copying works within almost all Open and 'Save As' dialog boxes as well as within My Documents. Use the same click, Ctrl-click and Shift-click selection techniques, and then right-click a selected file or folder and select Copy or Cut. Still within the Open or 'Save As' dialog, navigate to the destination folder, right-click in an empty spot and select Paste. ☺

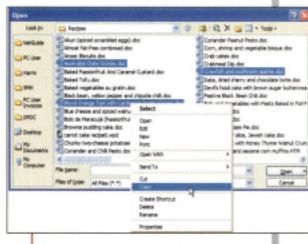
TOP TIP

Paste Options in Word

When you paste the contents of the clipboard into a Word 2003 document, a small clipboard icon appears at the bottom of the pasted text. This is the 'Paste Options' button. Moving the mouse pointer over the icon and clicking the down arrow that appears on it will let you select from a number of options, such as maintaining the existing formatting of the text, or removing the formatting ('Keep Text Only'). The latter option is particularly useful if you want to copy all the text from a Web page, but not the images.



When you paste items between different types of applications, you can no longer edit the item in the same way. For example, if you paste an image into spreadsheet, you'll be able to adjust its size, orientation and brightness, but you won't be able to edit the image itself.



Copying and pasting also works in most Open and 'Save As' dialog boxes.

TABLE 2: FILE AND FOLDER SELECTION TECHNIQUES

To select:	Do this:
A file or folder	Click it
A series of neighbouring files or folders	Click the first item, then Shift-click the last item
A series of non-neighbouring files or folders (alternate method)	Click and drag a selection rectangle around all the files/folders
A series of non-adjacent files or folders	Click the first item, then Ctrl-click each of the other items
Select all files and folders within a folder	Press Ctrl-A
Note: you can deselect any single file or folder while leaving the others selected by holding down the Ctrl key while clicking it.	

Copy your movies

Helen Bradley says
copying a DVD, VCD
or SVCD movie is
simple with X-OOM
Movie Clone 3 Go!

Chances are, one day you'll encounter the situation where you have a DVD, SVCD or VCD that you want to copy for some reason. You may want to copy the movie to your hard disk, you may want to make a physical duplicate of the disc, or you may want to copy the movie from your hard disk onto a new disc. In any and all of these situations, X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Go! can help. This program makes copies of unprotected

movies stored on DVD, VCD and SVCD to your hard drive or to another disc.

Before you use the program, you should realise that some movies are copy protected using the CSS or content scrambling system — most commercially distributed DVD movies fall into this category. Current copyright laws prevent you from legally copying these movies, even as emergency backups. Accordingly, X-OOM cannot be used to back up or copy these DVDs. If you attempt to do this, you will see a dialog indicating that this cannot be done. The movies X-OOM can copy are those that do not have scrambled or encoded content. In addition, X-OOM Movie Clone is, as its name suggests, a tool for cloning movies, so it

SPECIAL UPGRADE OFFER

PC User readers can upgrade to X-OOM Movie Clone 3 Gold for only \$49.95, saving \$30 off the recommended retail price of \$79.95. To upgrade, see the instructions on this month's cover discs. Offer ends February 2, 2006.

cannot copy or burn data that is not a movie, such as photos or regular files. It can, however, copy movies and slideshows created and burned as movies to DVDs, VCDs or SVCDs.

To make a copy of a DVD onto your hard disk, select the option 'Save DVD/CD files to a hard disk' and then select the source drive, which is the DVD drive containing your disc. In the target area, select a folder on your computer in which to store the video files — make a note of this, as this is where you will find them later on — and then

choose the film options if there is a choice to be made. Click the Options button to configure settings for the entire program. This dialog is only available when you have made a choice of tasks to perform, and it affects all tasks. Click Start and wait as the video files are copied to your computer. When the files have been copied, you will see a dialog confirming this. The movies can then be played from your computer by locating the folder in which they were copied and double-clicking the movie file. 

STEP BY STEP MAKE A DUPLICATE OF A DVD

1 Provided your DVD is not copy protected you can copy it by first placing the DVD in the drive and then clicking the 'Copy disk' tool from the X-OOM main screen. Select the source drive, the disc format and film options. Click Start.



2 Wait while the data from the disc is being read. This may take some time. When the disc has finished being read you will receive a message to this effect. Remove this disc from the drive and replace it with a blank DVD.



3 Wait as the data is then copied to the new disc. If you encounter problems, make sure you close all the programs you aren't using so the computer has plenty of resources available. When it's done, remove the disc and label it.

Universal Enterprise

Where Technology, Quality & Price - Never compromise

Universal Enterprise is proud to announce our latest launch of Blue Knight - an economical alternative ...



Premium Retailers:

QLD Bundycats.com (07) 4154 3322 www.bundycats.com
Colonial Soft Computer Services (07) 3851 3119 www.csics.com.au
Computer Alliance (07) 3421 3200 www.computeralliance.com.au
FS computers (07) 5578 6511 www.fscomputers.com.au
PC Shopper (07) 3397 0777 www.pcshopper.com.au
Gamedude Computers (07) 3387 1500 www.gamedude.com.au
ItsBits Computers (07) 3285 1700 www.itsbits.com.au
QCG (07) 3846 0888 www.qcg.com.au
Umart online (07) 3369 7928 www.umart.com.au

NSW Cactus Jack Computers (02) 4956 6711 www.cactusjack.huntersites.com

N.T. Cuptrice computer (08) 8947 3200

VIC C.W. Supplies (03) 5945 2000 www.cws.net.au
PC Case Gear (03) 9584 7266 www.pccasegear.com
PC Catz (03) 9791 1111 www.pccatz.com.au
PC Doc (03) 9739 8844 www.pcdoc.com.au
PC Power (03) 9585 6877 www.pcpower.com.au

Proudly distributed by:

Brisbane Ph: 07-3397-4266
Fx: 07-3397-8950
28 Harris Rd, Coorparoo,
QLD 4151, Australia

Melbourne Ph: (03) 9561 8888
Fx: (03) 9561 4277
3 Empire Parade Court,
Midgrave Business Park
VIC 3170, Australia

Townsville Ph: 07-4721-3700
Fx: 07-4721-5522
155 Ingham Rd, West End,
Townsville, QLD 4810, Australia

Sub - distributor:

Perth Ph: 08 9225 7099 / 08 9225 7688
Fx: 08 9225 7019
118 Brown street
East Perth 6004
www.softline.com.au



UNIVERSAL ENTERPRISE

www.universalenterprise.com.au

Purchase a Viper Tower Case to receive a free Vantec molex connector and slot connector FREE. Send proof of purchase along with this completed coupon to 28 Harris road, Coorparoo, QLD 4151, Australia and your free gift will be sent out to you.

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ PLACE OF PURCHASE: _____

Details will be used for despatching of gift only and will not be retained or used as part of a database.
Code: PCU-UNIVIP-SEP05

* Proof of purchase must be supplied to redeem special offer.

Universal Enterprise is a wholesaler and does not sell direct to the public.

The above products can be purchased from the listed stores above and other premium independent computer dealers throughout Australia.



Vantec molex & slot protector

Easy hard drive duplication

If you tinker with your hard disk, Paragon Drive Backup 2004 is a must-have utility, says Helen Bradley.

SPECIAL UPGRADE OFFER

PC User readers can purchase Paragon Drive Backup 7.0 Personal Version for half the recommended retail price, thanks to the Paragon Software Group. Normally sold for US\$49.95, PC User readers can purchase the software for only US\$24.97. Simply go to www.drive-backup.com and click the 'BuyNow' button to upgrade. Enter the coupon code **pcuser04** to claim your discount. This offer is valid until September 1, 2005. The

Any time you mess around with your hard disk, you run the risk of damaging something that will make your computer either fail to work or which will compromise your data. If you're the kind of person who likes to tinker with your hard disk and its structure, then Paragon Drive Backup 2004 is a utility that could save you from impending disaster.

Paragon Drive Backup 2004 works differently to other disk backups in that it makes an

image of your disk and saves it either to another disk, or splits it across a number of DVDs or CDs. Of course, to do this you will need to have sufficient CDs or DVDs available (or sufficient space on another computer) to write the image that you need to back up your system.

This program is less suited to the casual user who simply wants to back up files for security. However, it is an invaluable tool for someone who likes to tinker with their PC. If you save an entire partition or disk image, then you can restore it intact at

any time. You can also use this program if you plan to replace your primary hard drive with another hard drive — this program lets you duplicate all the data and settings from one disk to another.

When you launch the program, you will see the current partition and drive structure of your computer. You will most likely have multiple partitions, each of which stores different information. To browse a partition, right-click the partition in the list and select

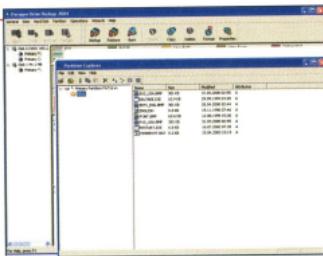
improved features in this version allow you to easily and simply create a backup of an entire hard disk with data files, system and hidden files, compressed and encrypted files, boot records and much more. Bootable backup images can be saved to local or network drives, or burned directly to CD/DVD. You can also boot the backup images from the CD/DVD backup archive and restore the data safely and independently.

'Browse Partition' to view its contents. If you're not completely sure what you are doing, avoid making any changes to your system or making a partition inactive, for example.

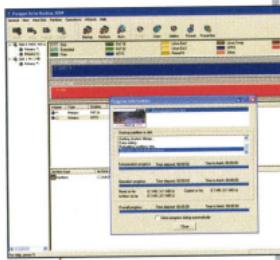
The step-by-step example below shows you how to create a disk image of a partition. The program also has other options, such as wizards to copy a disk and to undelete deleted partitions from your disk. You will find these on the Wizards menu. Check the program help for more information. ☺

STEP BY STEP BACK UP YOUR HARD DRIVE

1 Launch the program and view the partitions that are available for backing up. You can browse a partition by selecting 'Browse partition' from the shortcut menu. To select a partition for backup, click it in the list, right-click and select 'Create an image of partition'.



2 Configure the options for naming and storing the backup image file. You can specify a location for it either on the current disk or a different one. Click OK and the partition file information will appear listed in the window.



3 The file isn't actually created at this stage; to create it, click the partition archive file entry and click the Apply button to apply changes to it. You can then burn the file to disc or back it up for safekeeping.

Strathfield

Get ready for ADSL 2/2+ at unbeatable prices!

BILLION

Introducing the Billion BIPAC 5102. Perfect for the Home or SOHO user

- High-speed Internet access with ADSL, firmware upgradeable to ADSL2/2+
- Integrated with 4-port Ethernet Switch
- Easy Network Management
- Firewall security • Universal Plug & Play
- Dynamic Domain Name System (DDNS)
- Support Virtual Private Network (VPN)pass through



BiPAC 5102 ADSL 2/2+ Modem and 4-port Router **\$89**

BILLION

Get high-speed internet with the Billion BIPAC M7202G Wireless ADSL2+ Modem/Router

- Faster-speed Internet Access with ADSL2+
- 802.11g Wireless Access Point with WPA Support
- SOHO Firewall Security with NAT Technology and Packet Filtering
- Anti-virus Scan, Anti-virus
- Anti-spam, Anti-hacker/spyware
- Easy Network Management
- Universal Plug and Play
- Dynamic Domain Name System



myGuard 7202G ADSL2+ Modem and WiFi Router (802.11G) **\$169**

* Actual ADSL2+ performance may vary according to distance with the central office equipment. In router mode the maximum throughput may go up to 14Mbps.

MINITAR

Get wireless on your notebook with the Minitar MN54GCB-R 54Mbps WiFi Card

- 54Mbps fast wireless transfer speed for Video Streaming
- Backward compatible with 802.11b wireless transfer protocol
- Secure data transmission using 64/128-bit WEP and IEEE 802.11i TKIP encryption as well as Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA) support.



Minitar PCMCIA 802.11G (54Mbps) WiFi Adaptor **\$79**

Bonus# iPod Shuffle

When you purchase the Nokia 7260w on the Strathfield Extra 38 plan

exclusive to
Strathfield

NOKIA 7260w



- Dramatic yet dynamic
- SMS send and receive
- Integrated VGA camera
- Video recording & playing
- Polyphonic Ringtones
- Integrated FM radio
- Handsfree speakerphone*



* iPod Certified Reseller

\$0 1

Upfront

Strathfield EXTRA
38 18c/30
18c SMS
\$38 of monthly
calls/text/MMS

'yes'
OPTUS

Optus Conditions apply including: 1. The Strathfield Extra 38 Plan - 24 months connection with a monthly access fee of \$38. Minimum total cost over 24 months is \$912 for the Nokia 7260w. If the connection is not maintained for 12 continuous months an additional \$946 is payable. If connection is not maintained after 12 months you will pay a percentage of the Fee for the relevant plan, included call credits excludes some call types. New and credit approved customers only. While stocks last. Offer ends 30/09/05, unless withdrawn earlier. # BONUS 512MB iPod shuffle only available with the Nokia 7260w on the Strathfield Extra 38 plan for 24 continuous months. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. While stocks last. Limited stock. * Yes Text and Talk - when you select the 'yes' Text and Talk plan option. All calls and text must be sent and received within Australia. Some calls and text exclusions apply - see in-store for details. Standard freight of 25¢ applies. Offer ends 30/09/05, unless withdrawn earlier. SGD3426



Strathfield

CALL 13 11 77 www.strathfield.com

Split and join files

Helen Bradley explains just how handy it can be to break up files into little pieces.

How often have you tried to copy a file onto a disk and found that it's simply too big? Often, it's either bigger than the disk, or there's not enough room left on the disk for it to fit. In this situation, you could search out a bigger disk or, better still, use the Ashampoo File Splitter & Joiner that's comes free on this month's cover discs.

When you use Ashampoo Splitter & Joiner, you have two

choices: to either split a file or put it back together. Of course, until you've actually split a file, you won't be able to join the pieces, so start by splitting a file into smaller pieces.

To do this, you must specify the file to split and the size of the pieces to break it up into. There are preset options for sizes that match floppy disks, CDs and Zip disks, as well as a user-defined size. Once you've selected the size, simply click Next and the file will be automatically split up for you. The filenames of the individual parts are the same as the original, with an additional extension (.part00000, .part00001, and so on) to make the pieces easy to identify.

To rejoin a file, you simply

SPECIAL UPGRADE OFFER

PC User readers can upgrade to Ashampoo WinOptimizer Platinum Suite 2 for only US\$19.99, saving US\$30 off the recommended retail price of US\$49.99. To upgrade, visit www.ashampoo.com/shop/1106upgrade_edition and follow the onscreen instructions.

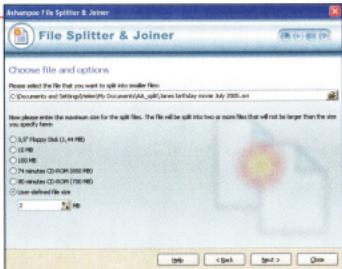
specify one of the parts — any one of them — and the program will locate and join all the components into a single file with the original filename. Make sure that all the pieces are in the same folder and that there is sufficient space on the computer for the joined file in addition to all the parts. When you have successfully rejoined the file, you can remove the parts if they're no longer required.

For more information on

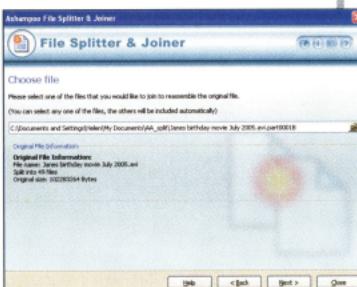
the program, access the help file by clicking the question mark icon in the top-right of the screen. The Options menu lets you specify a language for the program and a skin if one is available. There are additional settings for receiving news and updates from the program developer. Clicking the 'I' button displays information about the program, and clicking the Internet menu provides access to the developer's Web site. ☺

STEP BY STEP USE ASHAMPOO FILE SPLITTER & JOINER

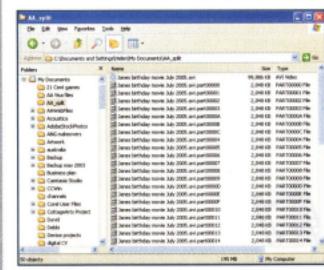
1 Start by clicking the 'Split a file into smaller files' option, then locate the file to split and click Next. Set the maximum size for each part by clicking an option button and, if you like, you can select 'User-defined file size' to set the size. Click Next and the file will be split.



2 When the file splitting is complete, you'll see a message confirming this. Check the folder containing the original file and you'll see the original and the multiple parts of the file all in the one folder. Before you reassemble the file, make sure all the parts are in the one folder.



3 When the file reaches its destination, use the program to join the files by launching the program and clicking the 'Join a set of split files' option. Select one of the split files and click Next to reassemble them back into a single file.



Competitive Upgrade Offer



The Ultimate Database

The Definitive Advanced Business Management System

Putting a method into your business

If you have proof of purchase of any one of the following then you can move up to TCM4000-AAA PE + Workflow System 2 at a very competitive price:

- 01. ACT
- 02. Goldmine
- 03. Maximizer
- 04. Mobile Solutions
- 05. SalesLogix
- 06. Any HR System
- 07. SAP or other business solution
- 08. Any bespoke system

Call now,

TCM will save you time and make you money

Melbourne: Graeme

(03) 9722 2089 (Intl +613 9722 2089)

Sydney: Mike

(02) 9449 2593 (Intl +612 9449 2593)

New Zealand: John

0274552953 (Intl +64 274552953)

Read what some users say about TCM4000-AAA....

"We like the fact that it was flexible, we could develop it to fit our business rather than the other way around. We access the database through mobile handsets so we can keep up to speed. No issues with the reliability for 3 1/2 years... been glitch free. To get something that would run the marketing campaigns and fit our business would have cost considerably more."

Jon Dean, Managing Director
The Accruals Bureau & Credit House PLC

"TCM 4000 has helped this charity reduce its administration cost by 25% and enabled it to develop its services by efficiently recording contacts, producing detailed reports and by tackling larger programmes of work and research. The Call Centre work is growing as we efficiently and speedily handle complex requests for help. The reference library holds all our policies and procedures. Staff and volunteers can access them online from home or any web connection. It is no exaggeration to say that we would never had survived without this software which is able to grow as we do."

"It gives us a confidence to work with national organisations who often struggle with much more expensive systems of management. The support is excellent and we are never left without the help to ensure that we can manage our development in an ever changing society."

Barrie Duke, Chief Officer,
Age Concern Oakhampton & Torridge

*Apt
Projects*

www.tcm promotions.com/info



Play PC videos on your TV

Nick Mailath tests media players that let you access your PC multimedia files in the lounge room.

With so much multimedia available on your home PC, bridging the gap between your computer and your lounge room has become almost essential. The network media players reviewed here are the perfect solution for playing your media on your TV or stereo without needing to move the PC right next to it.

In most cases, all you need do is run a network cable from

your router to the player to gain access to all your PC's videos, pictures and music. There will usually be some software to install onto your PC, too.

What we found

Most of the new players being released feature wireless networking, which while convenient, can be a hassle if your router is a few rooms away. If you are set on using wireless to stream your media, make sure you have good signal strength where you will be placing your player. In our testing, we found wireless streaming struggled with HD-quality video, even at full signal strength. If wired networking is available, it is much better suited for streaming the higher bit rate HD video.

What to look for

When buying a device like the ones reviewed here, there are a few things to be considered. First off, you should have a look through your PC media collection and make note of what formats are used. Buying a player that is compatible with the majority of your media files will save you lots of time otherwise spent re-encoding.

How you will connect the player to your network is also important. Find out if you will have enough signal strength to stream your files wirelessly, or alternatively, where you will run the CAT5 networking cable.

The units we tested varied in size — some were only the size of a hardcover book; others were similar to a full-width DVD

HOW WE TESTED
Each of the players was tested using the highest-resolution output available on a 40in NEC MultiSync LCD monitor. A variety of different media types were used to test the player's ability to handle the many different types of media available. All the players were tested on a wired Ethernet network and also using Wi-Fi (802.11g) networking where available.

player. They also varied in extra features, with two out of the four players including DVD players. Your PC also plays a key role in bridging this gap smoothly; make sure your system meets the requirements of both the player and software before making a purchase.

Buffalo Link Theater

The Buffalo Link Theater looks like a relatively standard DVD player, but underneath its deceiving shell lies a full-featured network media player, and this little beast even supports progressive-scan DVD. Two antennas for its wireless network adaptor are also concealed within the case, and there is a connector to add an external Wi-Fi antenna should you wish to use one.

The PC software supplied was easy to install and set up; the only major gripe we had with it was the fact you can only

have one main folder for each media type (these are aptly named Photo, Music and Video). The Link Theater shares the same basic interface software as the Pinnacle ShowCenter (below) although they are quite different. We found the Buffalo's interface was a bit more polished and generally better looking.

Playback of video and photos was impressive. DivX and XviD were smooth and played with no problems. MP3 playback was a different story, though. The first few seconds of

Price: \$449 Contact: Uidenen Phone: (02) 9599 3355 Web: www.buffalotech.com
+ Progressive-scan DVD
+ Internal Wi-Fi antenna
- MP3 playback issues



each track was scrambled noise, although we've been informed that new firmware is in development to correct this. Streaming DVD-quality DivX videos over Wi-Fi worked fine, but the same issue arose here as with the ShowCenter while trying to play a HD DivX file: the

wireless network simply could not cope with such a high bit rate. Using a wired network, the file played fine.

The Link Theater is very a full-featured player at a very nice price. Once the MP3 issue is resolved, you'll be hard pressed to find a better one.

Pinnacle ShowCenter 200

This next-generation ShowCenter is considerably smaller than its predecessor, the ShowCenter 100, and packs a

few more features, like integrated 802.11g wireless networking, too.

The front panel is simple,

including only the power button, some status LEDs and a USB port. The USB port will support most flash memory-

based USB hard drives, although it did not supply enough power for a 2.5in hard disk drive. The rear panel



contains all the outputs you could ever want, with component video, digital/analog audio out, SCART, Ethernet and a Wi-Fi antenna socket all included.

The software was the most user-friendly out of the players tested; setup was quick and adding media was a breeze. You don't actually transfer the files to the player, instead you just link to them. The newly added media can be selected from the 'New Media' folder or the appropriate category folder (Music, Video and so on).

Playback from the unit was great on the whole and it plays



most common media types without a problem. You can fast-forward or rewind using the traditional method (2x, 4x and so on), or you can skip by percent in 1% increments. This is a little tricky to work at first, but easy once you get used to it.

8 Price: \$599; approx. \$25 for audio licence key Contact: Lako Pacific Phone: 1800 657 601 Web: www.pinnaclesys.com + Simple looks + Works well - Costs extra to downmix surround sound to stereo

The ShowCenter is clearly a top-notch product, but there is one annoying inconvenience with it: to output Dolby Digital or AC-3 audio through the analog outputs, you must purchase an extra licence key online for around \$25.

KiSS DP-1500

The DP-1500 has a slim design with a black and silver case that would look right at home among high-end home theatre components. It has a built-in wired network adaptor and PC Card slot if you wish to add Wi-Fi capabilities. These ports are installed on the back panel of the player along with SCART, S-Video, composite and digital/optical/analog audio out. In our testing, we used a SCART-to-component cable to get the best picture from the player. Through the setup menu you can choose from 480p, 720p and 1,080i output. Using 720p in PAL, we experienced some black banding across the screen while



playing videos, although switching to NTSC completely fixed this. At 1,080i there were no such problems with the PAL signal. A firmware update should fix the problem at 720p.

The player's menus are easy to navigate and look pleasant while keeping things simple. The included KiSS PC-LINK software is straightforward to

7.5 Price: \$599 Contact: Qualifi Phone: (03) 8542 1111 Web: www.kiss-technology.com + Progressive-scan DVD + Web radio - PAL progressive-scan quality

use. With it, you can compile all your media into a library within the player. Media playback was good, although we did get a few FOURCC errors when trying to play some video files, a problem that can be overcome by re-encoding the video. Fast-forward and rewind functioned well, although the player was a little slow to respond at times

Hauppauge MediaMVP

The MediaMVP is the smallest player we tested, at about the same dimensions as a mid-sized hardcover book. It is also the least expensive at a tiny \$289. It has a simplistic design with only a single LED in the front panel and no buttons, switches or display. The rear panel holds all five of the unit's ports including RJ-45, S-Video, composite and RCA stereo audio out.

The player's interface keeps with the simplistic design: it has a plain background with media buttons in the middle of the screen. One annoying thing

about the MediaMVP was that it would not use the whole screen, no matter how many settings we changed or what output was used. Video playback was also buggy — most videos were shifted up and left a black bar at the bottom of the screen, while others would only be played on a third of the screen. The player does not resize your videos to fit the screen; it simply plays them at the size they are encoded at. DivX and XviD playback require a suitable codec to be installed on the PC serving the media files, and even then the quality

7 Price: \$289 Contact: New Magic Phone: (02) 9528 4555 Web: www.hauppauge.com + Small size + Simple design - Lacks features compared to others

isn't great. On the other hand, viewing pictures worked fine, as did music playback. You can even browse through your photos while the music is still playing.

While the MediaMVP works well with music and pictures,

TECH TERMS

Composite video. The standard video connector, which uses a one RCA plug. **Component video.** The default standard for connecting high-definition video equipment (including HDTV devices), component video uses three RCA-type connectors and splits the video signal into three discreet components to maintain quality. Also known as Y/Pb/Pr. **FOURCC** (four-character code). A FOURCC identifier is a sequence of four bytes used to uniquely identify data formats, including video codecs like DivX.

HDTV (high-definition TV). A standard recently introduced to Australia through digital television. This video has a much higher resolution than DVD. A standard DVD uses a resolution of 720 by 576 pixels, while HD can be up to 1,920 by 1,080 pixels.

S-Video. A video connection method that's higher quality than composite video output, but beneath component. It uses a four-pin DIN plug.

compared to the others here. The player also features Web radio shortcuts with access to plenty of different stations that can be streamed right to your TV or stereo.

The KiSS player is quite a decent unit and hopefully a few updates will iron out the bugs.



the trouble on the video side of things is a little disheartening. Then again, for this price you can't expect it to be perfect. Here's hoping they fix the video playback issues with a firmware update. ☺



Cool and new

The **PC User** team tests the latest gadgets, including hot new MP3 player accessories.

Belkin TuneCast II Mobile FM transmitter

This compact FM transmitter is designed to extend the capabilities of any audio device that has a 3.5mm headphone jack. It retransmits the audio signal to an FM radio frequency, allowing you to tune in with any FM radio-capable device. You can use any channel in the normal FM radio frequency range, from 88.1MHz to 107.9MHz in

0.1MHz steps. There are also four memory presets that allow you to save frequencies. The LCD shows the current frequency being used to broadcast your audio. Belkin rates the unit to 10 hours of playback from two AAA batteries and a set is included. There is also a power lead for use in the car, but you will need one of Belkin's Mobile Power



Cords to use it with an iPod. The audio received from the TuneCast was very clear in our testing — some of the best we've heard from an FM transmitter. There was a little background noise, but it's not really noticeable once audio is present. Signal strength was good and should be ample for use anywhere within 5m to 10m of the transmitter. The TuneCast

Price: \$79.95 **Contact:** Belkin **Phone:** 1800 235 546 **Web:** www.belkin.com/au

is perfect for adding an auxiliary-in to your car stereo and, using a 3.5mm stereo plug, it's compatible with just about any MP3 player.

— Nick Mailath

iPod Camera Connector

Price: \$48 **Contact:** Apple **Phone:** 13 36 22 22 **Web:** www.apple.com.au/ipod

Once in a while, a piece of technology comes along that simply works — just plug in and go. The iPod Camera Connector is one such device. By connecting this adaptor to your iPod at one end and your camera at the other, you can transfer the photos from your memory card onto the iPod's hard drive. About the width of a 50c coin, this connector is a great solution if you are away

from your computer and need to take images off your camera in order to take more photos. When you attach a camera to the connector with your camera's USB cable, the iPod screen will immediately display the number of photos it has detected on your camera and their total size. By clicking Import, the photos are transferred one at a time. You can conveniently choose to erase the photos off the camera's memory card once the transfer is completed. Unfortunately, you can't use the Camera Connector with just any



camera, so you'll find a list of compatible cameras on Apple's Web site. It's a shame the

Camera Connector is an optional extra. We'd like to see it built in as standard on future models.

— Roulla Yiakoumi

Klipsch ProMedia Ultra 2.0

Price: \$219 **Contact:** Anyware Computer Accessories **Phone:** 1300 269 927 **Web:** www.klipsch.com

These Klipsch speakers may seem a little pricey for a 2.0 system (two satellites with no subwoofer), but once you hear these things go, your qualms will literally be blown away. They consist of two 2.5in drivers for the low end, and a single 1in metallised polymer tweeter to

take care of high-frequency sounds. All of these are enclosed in a tuned ported enclosure and produced excellent sound in our tests. The amplifier is built into the left speaker and supplies 15W RMS per channel. Also built into the left speaker is the line in, auxiliary in and a headphone jack, along with bass and volume controls. The cloth grilles are removable if you want to show off the metallised, fibre-composite cones, but they

look just as good with the grilles on as they do off. The bass from these speakers was exceptional for their size and specification; they filled quite a large room effortlessly. The highs were crisp and clear, adding to the overall good quality of these speakers. They're ideal for computer use, or to beef up your MP3 player's output. They're easy to set up, have a small footprint and offer great performance.

— Nick Mailath





Creative Digital Wireless Headphone CB2530

Bluetooth wireless technology has already made a splash with mobile phones, but audio specialist Creative Labs has found a new use for it with these wireless headphones. Powered by three AAA batteries (one in the Bluetooth transmitter and two in the headphones), these aren't exactly the most stylish-looking headphones you'll ever sit on your head, but they do the job. Range is good for around 10m; as you go beyond this, the audio begins to break up as the headphones lose the Bluetooth link. Wireless headphones are not new — RF (radio frequency)



Price: \$189 Contact:
Creative Labs
Phone: (02) 9021 9800
Web: www.au.creative.com

headphones from Sennheiser and other brands sell for a similar price, but generally offer 10 times the range. The difference is that instead of FM analog transmission, the CB2530 uses digital audio, although we wish they used a sample rate higher than 48kHz. The audio quality was passable, but a little flat and heavy in the midrange for my liking. The



frequency response is claimed to be 20Hz to 20kHz, but they lacked crispness. The earpads themselves sit on your ears; larger enclosing surrounds

would have been more comfortable for longer listening. All up though, these aren't too bad for the price.

— Darren Yates

Belkin Voice Recorder for iPod

The Belkin Voice Recorder plugs into the top of any standard iPod (which excludes the mini and Shuffle) and enables it to record voice memos. The quality was very good in our tests; there was no background hiss and the voice was very clear. Recording music was also surprisingly good given the comparatively small size of the microphone. Music remained clear even when the source volume was right up, and it even picked up the bass quite well. The recording can be played

back through a small speaker built into the attachment, but it is quiet. You have to hold it up to your ear to hear anything through the speaker, but if you use headphones, the volume is fine. The iPod must have version 2.1 or later software to use it and it will only work with an iPod with a dock connector. The unit is very small and doesn't add much bulk to the iPod. There is also an LED on top to indicate when it is recording. It doesn't need any batteries to run, as it uses power from the iPod it is

B Price: \$69.95
Contact:
Belkin Phone:
1800 235 546 Web:
www.belkin.com/au

connected to, which is a very nifty feature. A plastic protector is also provided in which to store the device, keeping it out of harm's way when you're not using it. All up, it's a great



accessory for your iPod, enabling you to record memos, music or anything else clearly and easily without adding unnecessary size or weight.

— Nick Mailath

Laserpod



Price: \$139 Contact:
Laserpod Australia Web:
www.laserpod.com.au

If the lava lamp was to be revised with a more futuristic design, the Laserpod would be the likely outcome. This tech toy boasts three lasers and three high-brightness blue and purple LEDs, which are used to project various light effects onto the ceiling or the provided domed glass covers. It has two modes of operation: on the first press of



the power button, both the LEDs and the lasers turn on, projecting a blue mass dotted by the bright red lasers that are constantly changing shape and position. On the second press of the power button, the LEDs turn off and you are left with shapes and patterns generated by the lasers passing through the crystal at the centre of the lens. A rigid glass refractor lens is included and, when placed on top of the Laserpod, this changes the patterns produced into smoother, more flowing shapes. It is quite mesmerising and relaxing when projected

onto a ceiling in a dark room, but if you want to use it as more of a mood light, the two electroplated domes are more suitable. When placed on top of the main unit, these domes capture the projected light, displaying it on their surface. One downside with the Laserpod is that it really chews through the batteries; a set of three AAs will last around two evenings, although an AC adaptor is supplied. If you're after something to spice up your desk (or simply stare endlessly into), the Laserpod is for you.

— Nick Mailath



WIN
20,000
PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS

WIN ATI graphic cards!
Prizes drawn all day
Saturday 27th Aug.



FREE GIVEAWAY COUPON

Cut out this coupon and present it to the ATI promo team at the front counter on the 27th August to claim your free ATI Giveaway Showbag. Major prizes drawn at the event.

one showbag per person per day



ATI

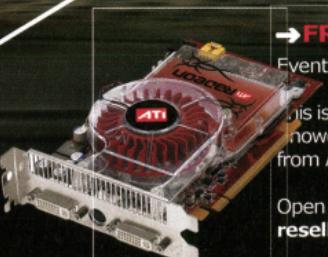
LAUNCH EVENT

2005

26th - 27th

august

sydney olympic park showgrounds hall 4B



→ **FRIDAY 26th AUGUST**

Event starts 6pm - 9pm

This is a **channel & media** event only showcasing the latest products from ATI Technologies.

Open to the **media, distributors, resellers** and related industries.

→ **SATURDAY 27th AUGUST**

Event starts 12noon - 5pm

Open to the General Public
Showbags and giveaways plus heaps of prizes to be drawn throughout the day.

ATI Promo girls on site!

• Lowest Prices in Australia – GUARANTEED!!!

IF YOU RECEIVE A GENUINE LOWER PRICE – CALL US AND WE'LL BEAT IT.

MICROSOFT PRODUCTS

CorpSoft 18th Birthday Specials



FREE SONY Dual-Layer DVD Burner



Microsoft Office XP
for Win 98 to Win XP
\$209 Standard Upgrade
Plus Dual DVD Burner **FREE**
\$299 Professional Upgrade
Plus Dual DVD Burner **FREE**

Ends July 31 or while stocks last

Access 2003 New Install	\$277
Access 2003 Win32 Upgrade	\$157
Encarta Reference Library 2005 CD/DVD	\$66
Excel 2003 New Install	\$277
Excel 2003 Win32 Upgrade	\$157
FrontPage 2003 New Install	\$310
FrontPage 2003 Upgrade	\$150
FrontPage 2003 Academic/Home Use	\$145
Money 2005 Win32	\$54
Office XP Pro Acad/Home Use Win98-XP	\$220
Project 2000	\$699
Project 2000 Upgrade	\$440
Publisher 2003 Upgrade	\$150
Publisher 2003 New Install	\$220
Publisher 2002 New Install	\$175
SQL Server 2000 Std Ed +5 Client	\$1895
Virtual Server Standard 2005	\$769
Visio Professional 2003 New Install	\$759
Visio Professional 2003 Upgrade	\$370
Visio Pro 2003 Academic/Home Use	\$231
Visio Standard 2003 New Install	\$306
Visio Standard 2003 Upgrade	\$140
Visio Standard 2003 Academic/Home Use	\$102
Win XP Home Edition Upgrade w/SP2	\$155
Win XP Professional Upgrade w/SP2	\$310
Win XP Pro Upg. Academic/Home Use	\$120
Win 98 2nd ED Upgrade	\$189
Word 2003 New Install	\$277
Word 2003 Win32 Upgrade	\$157

FREE Nintendo DS or PS2 or XBOX



Scansoft Omnipage

Pro. Version 14

\$850

Plus FREE Games Console

Pro. Version 14 Office

\$950

Plus FREE Games Console



NEW Releases from Adobe

Adobe Creative Suite Version 2 Premium

Upgrade from previous CS Premium . \$899
Upgrade from Adobe Photoshop . \$1249
New Install . \$1825
Academic . \$550

Adobe Creative Suite Version 2 Standard

Upgrade from previous CS Standard . \$579
Upgrade from Adobe Photoshop . \$849
New Install . \$1440

New CS2 Applications

Adobe Photoshop CS2 New Install . \$950
Adobe InDesign CS2 New Install . \$1050
Adobe Illustrator CS2 New Install . \$825

Individual Upgrades

Adobe Photoshop CS2 Upgrade . \$295
Adobe InDesign CS2 Upgrade . \$295
Adobe Illustrator CS2 Upgrade . \$295

POPULAR SOFTWARE

Acronis True Image v8

..... \$89

ACT! Version 7 Contact Manager

..... \$250

ACT! Version 7 for Workgroups

..... \$430

Adobe Acrobat V7 Pro Academic

..... \$199

Adobe Encore DVD - New Install

..... \$525

Adobe Premiere Pro-1.5 Upgrade

..... \$299

Adware SE Plus

..... \$60

Autodesk AutoSketch V9

..... \$189

Autodesk VoloView Version 3

..... \$260

Autodesk AutoCAD LT 2006 Upgrade

..... \$680

Camsol USB VoiP Phone

..... \$69

Corel Knockout 2 + FREE KPT Collection

..... \$99

Corel WordPerfect Office v12

..... \$369

Crystal Reports XI Developer N/Install

..... \$759

Crystal Reports XI Developer Upgrade

..... \$410

Crystal Reports XI Pro N/Install

..... \$630

Crystal Reports XI Pro Upgrade

..... \$327

Dragon Naturally Speaking Pref. V8

\$289 New Install

\$179 Upgrade

D-Link DSL-G604T Wiless ADSL Router

..... \$170

Dantz Retrospect Professional V7

..... \$189

Dantz Retrospect Server V7

..... \$1075

Diskeeper 9.0 Professional Edition

..... \$98

EndNote Version 8

..... \$440

EndNote Version 8 Academic

..... \$240

Family Tree Maker Deluxe V12

..... \$89

More Popular Software Specials

FileMaker Pro Version 7	..... \$389
FileMaker Developer Version 7	..... \$750
GoldMine Business Contact Manager V5	..... \$110
IMSI Floorplan 3D Design Suite V9	..... \$70
IMSI DesignCAD 3-D Max V15	..... \$129
IMSI OrgChart Pro Version 1.3	..... \$159
LaCie 160GB Firewire Hard Drive	..... \$225
McAfee VirusScan Pro. (2-User)	..... \$69
Macromedia (MM) Contribute V3	..... \$225
MM Dreamweaver MX 2004	..... \$589
MM Dreamweaver MX 2004 Academic	..... \$150
MM Dreamweaver MX 2004 Upgrade	..... \$299
MM Flash MX 2004	..... \$749
MM Studio MX 2004 New Install	..... \$1295
MM Studio MX 2004 with Flash Pro N/I	..... \$1470
Norton AntiVirus 2005 Upgrade	..... \$58
PalmsOne Treo 650 Smartphone	..... \$965
Pinnacle Studio+ v9	..... \$217
Pinnacle Studio AVDV Deluxe v9+	..... \$525
Pinnacle Studio MovieBox Deluxe v9+	..... \$670
Punch Pro Home Design Suite Platinum	..... \$190
Quark Xpress V6.5	..... \$2275
Quark Xpress Academic V6.5	..... \$420
QuickBooks Pro 2005/06	..... \$525
QuickBooks Premier 2005/06	..... \$1289
Reference Manager V11	..... \$495
Sandisk 12-in-1 Card Reader/Writer	..... \$52

LOTUS SmartSuite v.8

\$175 New Install

Scansoft OmniPage Pro 14 Upgrade	..... \$245
Scansoft OmniPage Pro 14 Office Upg	..... \$295
Scansoft PaperPort V10	..... \$160
Scansoft PaperPort Professional V10 .....	..... \$310
Scansoft PDF Converter NEW Version 3	..... \$72
Scansoft PDF Converter V3 Prof.	..... \$142
Scansoft PDF Creator NEW Version 3	..... \$72
Scansoft TextBridge Pro 11	..... \$129
Spyware Doctor	..... \$66
Trend Micro Internet Security 2005	..... \$82
ULEAD Photo Impact V10 Upgrade	..... \$108
ULEAD Photo Impact V10 M/Install	..... \$160
ULEAD Video Studio NEW Version 9	..... \$180
VET Net Surfer AntiVirus	..... \$77
WinZip Version 9	..... \$69
Zone Alarm Security Suite	..... \$88

Veritas Backup Exec Version 10

\$950 New Install

Visit www.corpsoft.com.au for more details

The Latest Products at the Lowest Prices !!!



MYOB Accounting Version 15
\$200
SAVE \$99!!



MYOB Acc. PLUS V15 (inc. Payroll)
\$400
SAVE \$195!!



AutoCAD LT 2006
\$1699 N/install
+FREE SONY Dual-Layer DVD Burner

• Multi-user discounts available • YES! Prices are available to the public



Nero Version 6.6 Reloaded
\$150 New Install



Adobe Photoshop CS2 & Illustrator CS2 New Install!
 1-User \$950 2-User (per user) \$895 3-User (per user) \$805 5-User (per user) \$770
 Photoshop CS2 \$825 Illustrator CS2 \$745 \$700 \$660



Microsoft IntelliMouse Explorer Optical
\$22



Jasc/Corel Paint Shop Pro v9
\$199 Academic
\$220 New Install



Adobe Photoshop Elements V3
\$145 N/install
\$249 Bundled with Premiere V1



Adobe Premiere Elements V1
\$119 N/install
SAVE 100!!



Scansoft PDF Creator v2
\$59



CorelDRAW GraphicSuite v12
 PLUS FREE Lexmark Z513 Printer
\$290 Upgrade
\$499 New Install

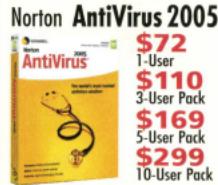


Adobe Acrobat v7 New Install
 Upgrades
 1-User \$425 2-User (per user) \$400 3-User (per user) \$380 5-User \$260 Std. Pro.
 Standard \$638 \$609 \$579 \$260 Pro-Pro.

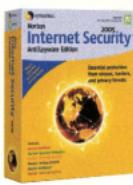


Roxio Media Creator Version 7.5
\$149 New Install

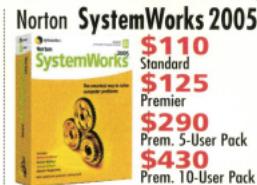
• Call for Govt. discounts on Adobe/Symantec/Microsoft products



Norton AntiVirus 2005
\$72
 1-User
\$110
 3-User Pack
\$169
 5-User Pack
\$299
 10-User Pack



Norton Internet Security 2005
 1-User After Cashback with Anti Spyware
\$85
 \$75 1-User After Cashback
\$175 3-User Pack
\$272 5-User Pack



Norton SystemWorks 2005
\$110
 Standard
\$125
 Premier
\$290
 Prem. 5-User Pack
\$430
 Prem. 10-User Pack

• Visit www.corpsoft.com.au for our full ACADEMIC Price Range



Microsoft Office 2000
 Standard \$180 Upgrade \$300 Upgrade
 \$329 N/install! \$450 N/install!



Microsoft Office 2003
 Student & Teacher \$179
 Professional Academic \$209
 Standard Upgrade \$355
 Professional Upgrade \$465
 Standard New Install! \$500
 Professional New Install! \$600



MS Windows XP
 Home New Install
\$280
 Professional New Install
\$380
 Small Business Server 2003 Std 7200rpm Hard Drive
\$810



Sony 8.5GB Dual Layer DVD Burner plus Software
\$220
 External DRX800U
\$135
 Internal DRB800A



Logitech DiNovo Cordless Desktop
SAVE \$100!
\$200



Microsoft Publisher 2000
\$79



Linksys Wireless-G Broadband Router with SRX
SAVE \$279
\$279



Epson Stylus Photo R1800 Inkjet Printer
SAVE \$275!!!
\$1100

1 Upgrade bundled with competitive product. PLEASE NOTE: • Delivery: Post \$11.50 or Courier \$15.90 • We accept Bankcard Mastercard and VISA. COD welcome. We accept AMEX with surcharge. • Phone, Fax and Mail Orders Welcomed • Goods ordered in error incur a 15% restocking fee • We accept authorised returns for Credit within 10 days if goods are unopened and in saleable condition • Moneyback Offers (if any) are the responsibility of the manufacturer • E.O.O.E • All Prices are Subject to Change Without Notice • Images shown are for illustration purposes only • Artwork prepared July 7th - prices advertised are GST inclusive. PGU/0905

• Lowest Prices in Australia - GUARANTEED!!!



CORPORATE SOFTWARE AUSTRALIA PTY LIMITED

Unit 1, 28 Victoria St, Smithfield NSW 2164 • PO Box 6168, Wetherill Park NSW 2164 • Ph (02) 9725 3700 • Fax (02) 9604 1983

Shop 11, 6-20 Braidwood St,
South Strathfield NSW 2136

Tel: (02) 9642 8698

Fax: (02) 9642 8678

Email: sales@bbctech.com.au

52 George St,
Parramatta NSW 2150

Tel: (02) 9806 9777

Fax: (02) 9806 9077

Kiosk 233, Westfield Miranda
600 Kingsway Miranda NSW 2228

Tel: (02) 9525 2866

Fax: (02) 9525 2868

Website: www.bbctech.com.au

D-LINK

WIRELESS NETWORKING



FILTERS

DSL-10MF \$16
DSL-10CF \$22
DSL-10SP \$32

DWL-G120 \$110



DWL-G122 \$75



15x

DWL-G510 \$55



15x

DWL-G650+ \$50

54MB	
DWL-G650+ (PCMCIA)	\$50
DWL-G510 (PCI)	\$55
DWL-2000AP+ (access point)	\$116
DI-524	\$88

108MB	
DI-724P+ (router wireless)	\$165
DI-824VUP+	\$245
(VPN, router USB, printer saver)	
DI-624	\$120



ROUTER / DSL

DSL-704P (4port, parallel) \$70
DSL-6510 (PCI) \$85
DSL-707P (7port, parallel) \$117
DI-804HV (VPN, 4port) \$117
DI-808HV \$189

ADSL

DSL-504G \$105
DSL-502T \$90

SWITCHES

DES-1014P+ \$130
DES-1024P+ \$165
DES-1024R+ \$249
DES-1024R+ \$390
DES-1080D \$60DSM-320
2.4GHz 1g
\$325

ASUS®

The New Mobile Processing Platform



The Slim, Lightweight 15-Inch Notebook

V6 series

An ultra-slim 15" notebook. Characterised by a refined and elegant design, it offers both functionality and cutting edge performance. A modern symbol of success and style for urban elites.



Zero Bright Dot



■ Rich Cinematic Audio



■ Aluminium Alloy Casing with Unique Hairline Design Surface



Total Vision Satisfaction for Multitasking

W3 series

Open up and unlock a world of possibilities. With its widescreen and new Colour Shine display technology, it brings ultimate visual enjoyment in displaying 2 windows simultaneously. Perfect notebook for both work and play.

Color Shine
Gloss Type Panel

■ 14" Widescreen for Cinematic Enjoyment



■ Unique Concealed Bamboo Battery Hinge



W5 series

No matter where you are, with W500A built-in 1.3 mega-pixel Swivel Webcam, microphone and exclusive LiveFrame software, it allows easy capturing, recording and playing of photos and videos. "My life. Now Playing."

Color Shine
Gloss Type Panel

■ Built-In 180° Swivel Webcam



■ Classic Black and White Design

VisionDTV Ter \$110
Digital Terrestrial PCI CardDVB T
TERRESTRIAL

- TV & Radio In Digital Quality
- TV with Time-Shifting
- Schedule Video Recording
- Free CyberLink Power DVD

VISIONPLUS

Digitize Your Vision

SPECIALS



FLASH MEMORY

USB Hard Drive	\$30
256MB	\$45
512MB	\$85
1GB	\$115



SPEAKER

Z-500	\$70
X-500	\$110
Z-600	\$330
X-600	\$135
Z-500/THX	\$250



SD CARDS

128 Mb	\$30
256 Mb	\$45
512 Mb	\$85
1GB	\$120



LG	\$90
16X DVD Writer	\$90
PowerDVD	\$100
Samsung	\$100
DVD Writer	\$120



UL-TRAN	\$4
10 Spindle	\$40
4x DVD-R	\$40
50 Spindle	\$40
50 Spindle 4x DVD-R	\$50



TP-LINK®

www.tp-link.com

With TP-Link, Anybody Can Be Networked



8 Port Gigabit Switch
RRP \$189.00



24 Port 10/100 Rack Mount Switch
RRP \$149.00



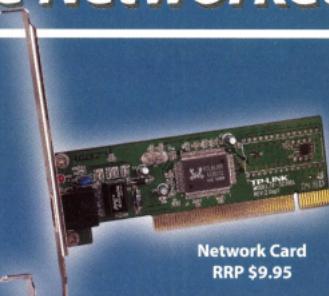
8 Port 10/100 Lan Switch
RRP \$38.00



5 Port 10/100 Fast Ethernet Switch
RRP \$29.00



Multi Function
Broadband Router
RRP \$68.00



Network Card
RRP \$9.95



Gigabit LAN Card
RRP \$32.00

Anyware is a wholesaler and does not sell direct to the public. The above products can be purchased from most independent computer dealers throughout Australia. Call the freecall number below for your nearest reseller.

Anyware™ COMPUTER ACCESSORIES

SYDNEY

MELBOURNE

PERTH

ADELAIDE

BRISBANE

AUCKLAND

FREECALL - 1300 ANYWARE: 1300 269 927

www.anyware.com.au
www.anywarenz.co.nz

Find out more additional products, online ordering and updated prices from

www.computeronline.com.au
COMPUTER PARTS & ACCESSORIES Price are subject to change without prior notice

CPUs
Intel

 Celeron 2400 \$113
 Celeron 2600 \$127
 P4 - 3.0GHz 800 \$175
 P4 - 3.2GHz 800 \$179

AMD

 Sempron 2200 \$85
 Sempron 2400 \$99
 Athlon XP 2800 \$140
 Athlon XP 3000 \$177
 Athlon 64 3000 \$224

Hard disks

 Notebook 40Gb \$110
 Notebook 60Gb \$149
7200 RPM
 WD 800Gb 80Gb 8m \$90
 WD 1200Gb 120Gb 8m \$120
 WD 2000Gb 200Gb 2m \$149
 WD 2000Gb 200Gb 8m \$157
 Maxtor 120Gb \$110
 Maxtor 200Gb 8m \$156

Seagate

 Barracuda 4Gb \$79
 Barracuda 8Gb \$89
 Serial ATA 80Gb 8m \$89
 Barracuda 120Gb \$110
 Barracuda 120Gb 8m \$119
 Serial ATA 120Gb 8m \$119
 Barracuda 160Gb 8m \$135
 Serial ATA 160Gb 8m \$145
 Barracuda 250Gb 8m \$206

MS Software

 Windows XP Home \$129
 Windows XP Pro OEM \$215
 Windows XP Pro X64 \$229
 Windows 2000 OEM \$242
 Windows MediaCenter \$189
 Office 2003 Basic \$219
 Office 2003 Student \$219
 Office 2003 Pro Ac Ed \$269
 Office Small Bus 2003 \$339
 Office Pro 2003 OEM \$349

CD & DVD Roms

 52x CDROM \$25
 DVD 16x **Liteon** \$39
 DVD 16x **Samsung** \$39
 DVD 16x **Sony** \$45

Motherboards
Pentium 4

 Gigabyte 8184PG \$99
 Gigabyte 85661FXM \$96
 Gigabyte P4P800-E \$175
 Gigabyte P4P800-MX599 \$175

Kingmax

 Gigabyte B1PE1000PIS156 \$175
 Gigabyte B548F7X75599 \$175

ASUS

 ASUS P4P800-VM \$109
 ASUS P4P800-MX \$109
 ASUS P4P800E \$109
 ASUS P4P800E \$109

ASUS

 ASUS P5P800 \$125
 ASUS P5AD2-E prem \$447
 Maxtor 200Gb 8m \$156

ASUS

 ASUS P5GD2 Deluxe \$285
 ASUS P5GD2 VM \$108

Memory
Call for the latest prices

 256Mb pc133 \$59
 512Mb pc133 \$99
 256Mb DDR 3200 \$39
 512Mb DDR 3200 \$65

ASUS

 512Mb DDR2 4200 \$89
 ASUS ATi 9250TD 256M AGP \$109

ASUS

 ASUS N6600GT/1D 128M AGP \$329
 ASUS V9400-X/12 128M AGP \$72

Leadtek

 Leadtek MX4000 A1/800T 8x 64M \$69
 Leadtek FX5200 A3/1024T 128M \$85

Leadtek

 Leadtek FX5200 A3/40TD 256M \$129
 Leadtek PX6600TD 256M \$189
 Leadtek PX6800GT 256M \$199

ATI

 ATI Radeon GeCube 9200SE 128M PCI \$105
 ATI Radeon GeCube 9600XT 128Mb \$209

ATI

 ATI Radeon Sapphire 9200SE 128M \$159
 ATI Radeon Sapphire 9250 128M \$64

ATI

 ATI Radeon Sapphire 9550 256M \$129
 ATI Radeon Sapphire X300SE 128M PCI \$99

CD Rewriters / DVD writers

 Sony CRX230E 52x32x52 IDE drive OEM \$45
 Sony CRX320E 52x42x52 16x DVD OEM \$45

Liteon

 Liteon 52x32x52 IDE kit \$40
 Liteon 52x32x52 USB external kit \$89

Liteon

 Liteon 52x32x52 16xDVD USB external kit \$109
 Liteon 52x32x52 16xDVD Combo \$60

ASUS

 ASUS CDRW53252 52x32x52 IDE kit \$45
 Samsung SM-252FRNS 52x32x52

Samsung

 Samsung SM352BRNS 52x32x52 16xDVD \$59
 Samsung SDRW-DVDR Dual Layer 16xDVD \$85

Samsung

 LG GCE-8525B 52x32x52 16x IDE OEM \$65
 LG GRC-4520B 52x32x52 16x DVD \$40

LG

 LG GSA4163B DVD 16x burner \$159
 LG GSA516D DVD/RW 16x USB/firewire \$93

Pioneer

 Pioneer 109 DVD burner OEM \$119
 Pioneer A09 DVD burner Retail \$119

Sony

 Sony DW-226A 16x Dual Layer \$93
 Sony DRU720/16x Dual Layer \$115

Sony

 Sony DRU800A 16x Dual Layer \$139
 Sony DRX800UL 16x Dual Layer \$219

Liteon

 Liteon LDW-1673S DVD burner \$190
 Liteon SOHW-1653SX DVD burner \$159

Video cards
64Mb GeForce MX440 TV out AGP

128Mb GeForce FX5200 TV out AGP \$75

256Mb GeForce FX5700LE TV out AGP

\$159


Sound cards
CREATIVE

Live 24 bit \$59

Audiyo 7.1 \$165

Audiyo 2 ZS Platinum \$319

Audiyo 2 NX \$209

Audiyo 2 Pro \$209

Monitors
17" Benq G775 Flat

\$160

17" LCD Benq 71E

\$349

17" LCD Benq 71E+

\$369

17" LCD Benq 737S

\$320

17" LCD LG 1750SD

\$369

17" LCD Mitsubishi 175399
Cases / Cases for
ATX mid case

\$65

ATX Aopen H600

\$143

ATX Mcafee K380

\$145

ATX Mcafee KA-6c28510

\$145

ATX Mcafee KA-74-127

\$129

Antec Santa

\$179

Antec Super Lanboy 142

\$40

ATX Power 300w

\$40

ATX Power 400w

\$55

Antec Truepower 330S9

\$249

Antec Truepower 430S120

\$249

Antec Truepower 550S169

\$249

Printers
Brother MFC-8400

\$764

Brother HL-5140

\$349

HP Deskjet 3550

\$69

HP PhotoSmart 7260

\$105

Lexmark X710

\$322

Canon MF5650

\$523

Canon MP390

\$249

Epson R510

\$339

Epson R430

\$205

COMPUTER SYSTEMS Configure your own computer on www.computeronline.com.au

Modems / Network
56k Internal

\$20

Netcomm 56k Internal

\$30

D-Link DI-824VUP+

\$245

D-Link DSL-504T

\$112

D-Link DSL-604T

\$159

Netgear ADSL DG834g

\$165

Speakers
240w SPKs

\$15

400w SPKs with sub-woofer

\$25

Logitech X-230

5 point Spks \$70

Logitech X-530

5 point Spks \$110

Logitech Z-550d

5 point \$479

Creative SBS620

2 point Spk \$27

Creative SW370

2point Spks \$550

Creative Inspire 2500

2 Spks \$65

Creative Inspire 5200

5 Spks \$105

Altec Lansing ACS200

\$25

Altec Lansing 221

\$69

Altec Lansing 251

\$125

Mice
Optical mouse

\$20

Logitech MX518

\$75

Logitech MX1000

\$112

Microsoft

Intellimouse PS/2 OEM

\$15

Wheel optical OEM

\$24

Intellimouse OEM

\$39

Keyboards
Benq PS/2

\$16

Microsoft multimedia

\$30

Microsoft wireless optical

\$85

Microsoft digital media pro

\$45

Logitech LX-500

\$106

Logitech LX-700

\$131

Logitech Cordless Desktop SE858

\$185

Webcam

\$24

Logitech QuickCam express

\$50

Logitech QuickCam Orbit

\$185

Logitech QuickCam pro 4000

\$118

Tenor

See The World in A Different Way

New Home Theatre Style PC Case from Thermaltake



Model	Tenor	VB2000SNS	VB2000BNS
Colour	Silver	Black	
Net Weight	8.5 kg		
Dimension	170 x 430 x 460 mm (H x W x D)		
Cooling System	● Front (intake): 80 x 80 x 25 mm fan, 2000rpm, 19dBa ● Rear (Exhaust): Dual 60 x 60 x 25 mm silent fan, 2500rpm, 19dBA		
Front Accessible Internal	3 x 5.25" 2 x 3.5" 3 x 3.5"		
Material	Chassis: 1.0 mm SECC. Front bezel: Aluminum made		
Expansion Slots	7		
Motherboards	ATX, Micro ATX		



Front 5.25" drive bay access



Dual USB 2.0,
IEEE 1394 Firewire,
Audio & Speaker ports

Non-slip foot stands



Rear Fan (Exhaust)

Front Fan (intake)



Thermaltake
COOL// YOUR LIFE

THERMALTAKE AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

EMAIL: sales@thermaltake.com.au

Web: www.thermaltake.com.au



TONNY's revolutionary water resistant photo paper

Create superior photo prints with your inkjet printer

- Glossy finish for true photo quality
- Bright white for high colour saturation
- Compatible with all inkjet printers
- Ideal for use with TONNY inks

Buy any 5 TONNY compatible cartridges & receive
1 pack of TONNY Premium Glossy Paper FREE! (TPP1846)

Premium Photo Quality Paper

- 110gsm
- 100 sheets

A4 (210x297mm)...\$11.50 TPP2881

Glossy Photo Paper

- 187gsm
- 20 sheets

A6 (105 x 148mm)...\$ 4.90 TPP1846

A4 (210 x 297mm)...\$12.90 TPP1811

Premium Glossy Paper

- 256gsm
- 20 sheets

A6 (105 x 148mm)...\$ 6.90 TPP2846

A4 (210 x 297mm)...\$16.90 TPP2811



Canon Ink Cartridges



Model	Genuine	TONNY
BCI-24BK	\$14.00	\$5.60
BCI-24C	\$33.00	\$7.20

Model	Genuine	TONNY
BK-3	\$49.00	\$28.00
BC-01	\$39.00	—
BC-02	\$39.00	\$28.00
BC-03	\$38.00	\$28.00
BC-05	\$50.00	\$35.00
BC-20	\$49.00	\$28.00
BCI-36BK	\$25.00	\$ 8.80
BCI-36C	\$19.00	\$ 6.40
BCI-36M	\$19.00	\$ 6.40

Model	Genuine	TONNY
BCI-6Bk	\$24.00	\$6.40
BCI-6C	\$24.00	\$6.40
BCI-6M	\$24.00	\$6.40
BCI-6Y	\$24.00	\$6.40
BCI-6PC	\$24.00	\$6.40
BCI-6PM	\$24.00	\$6.40

Ink refill kits
for Canon, HP
Lexmark
& Epson

from
\$490



Epson Ink Cartridges



Model	TONNY
T007	\$10.80
T008	\$16.50
T009	\$16.90
T013	\$ 5.60
T014	\$ 9.90
T017	\$10.80
T018	\$13.20
T026	\$11.20

Model	TONNY
T027	\$16.50
T0324	\$9.50
T0422C	\$9.50
T0423M	\$9.50
T0424Y	\$9.50
T0461	\$8.90
T0472	\$8.90
T0473	\$8.90
T0474	\$8.90

Model	TONNY
T0491	\$19.00
T0492	\$8.90
T0493	\$8.90
T0494	\$8.90
T0495	\$8.90
T0496	\$8.90
S020089	\$9.90
S020093	\$5.60



HP Ink Cartridges



Model	Genuine	TONNY
51625A (#25)	\$46.00	\$30.00
51626A (#26)	\$46.00	\$30.00
51629A (#29)	\$46.00	\$30.00
51645A (#45)	\$46.00	\$26.00
51649A (#49)	\$48.00	\$30.00
C1823D (#23)	\$51.00	\$32.00
C6578D (#78)	\$51.00	\$32.00
C6614A (#20)	\$44.00	\$28.00
C6615DA (#15)	\$44.00	\$26.00
C6625A (#17)	\$48.00	\$30.00
C6656A (#56)	\$32.00	\$24.00

Model	Genuine	TONNY
C6657AA (#57)	\$51.00	\$32.00
C6658AA (#58)	\$26.00	\$26.00
C8727A (#27)	\$24.00	\$24.00
C8728A (#28)	\$26.00	\$26.00

Model	Genuine	TONNY
12A1970	\$48.00	\$32.00
12A1980	\$56.00	\$35.00
17G0050	\$46.00	\$32.00
17G0080	\$53.00	\$35.00
13400HC	\$53.00	\$53.00
13619HC	\$52.00	\$52.00
10N0217	\$33.00	\$33.00
10N0227	\$35.00	\$35.00
10N0016	\$46.00	\$46.00
10N0026	\$49.00	\$49.00



Spend \$100 or more with TEG
and we'll deliver FREE!

For purchases under \$100
a standard freight charge of
\$6.50 applies for all areas
within Australia.



Lexmark Ink Cartridges



Model	Genuine	TONNY
18L0032 (#82)	\$47.00	
18L0042 (#83)	\$53.00	
12A1970	\$48.00	\$32.00
12A1980	\$56.00	\$35.00
17G0050	\$46.00	\$32.00
17G0080	\$53.00	\$35.00
13400HC	\$53.00	\$53.00
13619HC	\$52.00	\$52.00
10N0217	\$33.00	\$33.00
10N0227	\$35.00	\$35.00
10N0016	\$46.00	\$46.00
10N0026	\$49.00	\$49.00

Brother Ink Cartridges

Model	Genuine	TONNY
LC-21BK	\$30.00	\$9.50
LC-21C/M/Y	\$17.00	\$8.90
LC-02BK	\$21.00	\$9.50
LC-02C/M/Y	\$11.00	\$8.90
LC-04BK	\$28.00	\$9.50
LC-04C/M/Y	\$16.00	\$8.90
LC-800BK	\$32.00	\$9.50
LC-800C/M/Y	\$18.50	\$8.90

SALES: 02 9223 2360



NEW ARRIVALS!

Ink Cartridge **TONNY**
 Canon BCI 6G \$6.40
 Canon BCI 6R \$6.40

Ink Cartridge **TONNY**
 Epson T0540/2/3/4 \$8.90
 Epson T0544/7/8/9 \$8.90
 Epson T0561/2/3/4 \$8.90

Ink Cartridge **TONNY**
 HP C6658A \$26.00
 HP C8727A \$24.00
 HP C8728A \$26.00

Ink Cartridge **Genuine** **TONNY**
 Brother LC47BK \$32.00
 Brother LC47C/M/Y \$18.50

Toner Cartridge **TONNY**
 HP Q5949A \$65.00

HP Black Toner Cartridges

Model	Genuine	TONNY
92274A	\$135.00	\$ 59.00
92298A	\$139.00	\$ 65.00
C3906A	\$ 99.00	\$ 59.00
C3903A	\$125.00	\$ 75.00
C3909A	\$220.00	\$115.00
C4092A	\$ 99.00	\$ 59.00
C4096A	\$135.00	\$ 65.00
C4127A	\$145.00	\$ 65.00
C4127X	\$169.00	\$ 80.00

Model	Genuine	TONNY
C4129X	\$229.00	\$115.00
C4182X	\$259.00	\$135.00
C7115A	\$ 89.00	\$ 59.00
C8061X	\$185.00	\$ 85.00
Q1338A	\$209.00	\$ 85.00
Q2612A	\$ 99.00	\$ 59.00
Q2613A	\$ 99.00	\$ 59.00
Q2610A	\$169.00	\$ 95.00
Q2624A	\$ 96.00	\$ 59.00

Lexmark Toner Cartridges

Model	Genuine	TONNY
Optra E210	\$129.00	\$85.00
Optra E310	\$225.00	\$98.00
Optra E/E+	\$135.00	\$59.00

Toner powder
also available
for HP and
Samsung

from
\$1495

Canon Toner Cartridges

Model	Genuine	TONNY
EP-22	\$ 99.00	\$59.00
EP-25	\$ 99.00	\$59.00
EP-26	\$109.00	\$69.00
EP-32	\$145.00	\$65.00
EP-52	\$185.00	\$80.00
E31	\$189.00	\$95.00
FX3	\$132.00	\$59.00



USB Mini Mouse

Optical engine
Wheel Scroll

\$10.50



USB Optical Mouse

Optical engine
Wheel Scroll

\$9.50



Adhesive Notes

102mm x 76mm
100 Sheets

\$1.35



Permanent Marker

Waterproof
Non-toxic

\$1.35



Fax Roll

210mm x 30m

\$1.95



CD Case

Holds 40.....\$3.90
Holds 80.....\$4.90
Holds 128.....\$8.90



\$0.95

Slimline Clam CD Cases

Protects CDs
Saves space
Adds colour
10PK.....\$2.50



CD Sleeves

Protects CDs from dust,
moisture, scratching and
data corruption. Saves
Storage space.
100PK.....\$3.50



BUY NOW! For more info call 02 9223 2360 or FAX orders to 02 9223 5775

TEG Computers
Shop 502, Lvl 5, 33 Bligh St
Sydney NSW 2000
Tel: 02 9223 2360
Fax: 02 9223 5775
sales@tegcom.com.au

Adscroll Australia
Suite 103, 52 Atchison St
St Leonards NSW 2065
Tel: 02 9966 8688
Fax: 02 9908 3808
sales@adscroll.com.au

For wholesale inquiries contact
ADSCROLL AUSTRALIA
02 9966 8688

All orders are subject to our terms and conditions of sale. Pricing and stock availability are subject to change at any time without notice. Please note that pictures and illustrations are for display only and that the final product may vary. All prices are trade names, trademarks or service marks of their respective companies.

Card Reader & USB Hub

NEW

HC2001

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
+3-port USB 2.0 Hub Combo



Silver Blue Pink Black Gold

HC2002

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
+3-port USB 2.0 Hub Combo
(with illumination mirror)



Silver Blue Pink Black White

HC2003

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
+3-port USB 2.0 Hub Combo
(with illumination mirror)



Silver Blue Pink Black White

CR2012

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
(with illumination mirror)



Silver Look

CR204001

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer



Silver Blue Pink Black Gold

CR2015

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
(with illumination mirror)



Silver Blue Pink Black White

CR2013

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
(with illumination mirror)



Silver Blue Pink Black White

CR204002

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer
with Media Case



Silver Blue Pink Black Gold



CR204005

22-in-1 Card Reader/Writer

CR202005

6 in 1 Card Reader/Writer



White Black Orange

U 2 HUB

USB 2.0 4 Port Hub



Silver

HU204001

USB 2.0 4 Port Hub



Silver Blue Pink Black Gold

HU2006

USB 2.0 4 Port Hub



Silver Blue Pink Black Gold

HU2007

USB 2.0 4 Port Hub
(with illumination mirror)



White

CB0002

Media Case



Silver Blue Orange White

OTC Computer Pty Ltd

Brisbane

65 Southgate Ave, Cannon Hill, QLD 4170
Phone: 07 3899 3811 Fax: 07 3899 3711

Melbourne

20-21 Rosemary Court Mulgrave, Vic 3170
Phone: 03 9545 3966 Fax: 03 9545 3155

Sydney

Phone: 02 9748 2750 Fax: 02 9748 3662

Innovative • Unique • Interesting • Hard to find products



12v Mini PC

This mini bar bones PC can operate on 12v or 240v making it ideal for use in boats or cars. A fanless design ensures silent operation. Cat. 1150-9 \$699



IDE RAID Controller

Attach up to four IDE drives in RAID, works with HD, CD/DVD. Cat. 2886-9 \$99



Digital I/O Card

A PCI card that provides 48 digital I/O lines and three 16bit counters with a maximum count rate of 10MHz. Cat. 17053-9 \$249



Dual ADSL Router

Enhance reliability and double your ADSL capacity by using two different ISPs. Cat. 10145-9 \$269



VGA Splitter 2 WAY

The ideal way of providing multiple duplicate displays in meeting rooms, stock rooms, clubs, etc. Also available in 4 and 8 way. Cat. 3070-9 \$259



Low Profile Printer Cards

Replace a faulty printer port or add more ports to a PC in a low profile case. Standard size cards available. Cat. 2840-9 Single \$94 Cat. 2841-9 Dual \$123

What's New?



Analog Telephone Adaptor

Interconnect a normal PSTN phone line and the Skype network for use with a standard telephone. Cat. 10169-9 \$239

Car PC

Designed specifically for automotive use, this car computer has a small PC case, integrated 10.4" LCD touch screen and runs on 12 Volts. It includes a 1 GHz CPU, 256MB DDR RAM and a 20GB slim anti-vibration hard drive. Optional extras include a high precision GPS engine, a high precision GPS Active Antenna and a magnetic card reader. Cat. 1162-9 \$2990



Firewire B Card

Firewire B is a new Firewire standard that is twice as fast as the original Firewire A. The card has two external B ports, and two legacy A ports, one internal and one external. Compatible with 32 and 64 bit PCI BUs. Cat. 2997-9 \$99



Digital & Analogue TV Tuner

A unique TV tuner card that can receive the older analogue transmissions and newer DVB-T digital TV transmissions. Cat. 3567-9 \$199



Internet Security Router with VPN Server

Provide secure connections to your traveling salesmen or wireless users with up to 100 VPN tunnels. Cat. 10164-9 \$849



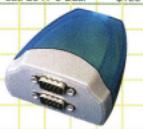
High Power Bluetooth Dongle

A high power Bluetooth dongle with a nominal range of 100m. Compliant with Bluetooth v1.1. Cat. 11903-9 \$89



USB to Parallel

Allows the user to plug an older parallel printer into a USB port. Cat. 2697-9 \$39



USB to Serial

Plugs into a USB port and can provide multiple serial ports. Cat. 2828-9 One port \$54 Cat. 2852-9 Two port \$119 Cat. 2851-9 Four port \$349

- Generally delivered next day •

Not sure what product you require?

Call us for friendly advice!

ask@mgram.com.au

02 4389 8444

www.mgram.com.au

Laser Barcode Scanner

This stylish laser scanner is great for small to medium sized retail outlets. A stand is available. Cat. 1008039-9 \$399



Removable HD Kit

An aluminium frame and tray to convert any standard IDE HD into a removable backup/storage device. Cat. 6802-9 \$79



VGA to TV

Display a standard VGA output on a TV or a projector with only Video inputs. Cat. 3102-9 \$399



Video to VGA

Display any Composite or S-Video signal on a CRT monitor. Cat. 3479-9 \$199



7 Port USB 2.0 Hub

Attach up to seven USB devices to the one USB port with this powered hub. Cat. 2904-9 \$77



Windows Based Terminal

This tiny WBT can attach to the VESA mounts on a LCD monitor. It supports RDP and emulates SCO, DEC, Wyse etc. Cat. 1239-9 \$649



KVM Switches

Control Multiple PCs with one console (keyboard, mouse & monitor). Cat. 11654-9 2 Way \$79

Cat. 11655-9 4 Way \$129

Cat. 11656-9 8 Way \$449

Cat. 11657-9 16 Way \$799



Sharp Cash Register

A basic cash register that is suitable for small retail outlets. Cat. 1008129-9 \$289



Mini 88 key keyboard

Comes with a laptop style touchpad. A great space saving replacement for mouse & keyboard. A cordless model is available. Cat. 8751-9 \$139



Wireless Hotspot

Allow users to access the Internet over a secure wireless link. Great for cafes, libraries, conference rooms, motels etc. Cat. 11451-9 \$949



Dealer inquiries welcome

Phone: 02 4389 8444
FreeFax: 1800 625 777
ask@mgram.com.au
www.mgram.com.au

All prices subject to change without notice. For current pricing visit our website. Pictures are indicative only.

ORDERING HOTLINE: 1300 736 364



Quality USA Formulabs® Ink

- ✓ 100% Compatible Printer Cartridges
- ✓ 1 Year Manufacturers' Warranty
- ✓ No-Hassels Money Back Guarantee
- ✓ No Additional Credit Card Surcharge
- ✓ All Prices GST-inclusive
- ✓ Easy-to-Reach Technical Support
- ✓ FREE postage for Purchase over \$50 (Australian orders)

For Canon® Printers

Deal 1

Any Colour



Compatible with:
Canon BCI-3 Series &
BCI-6 Series
(Includes colours Black, Cyan,
Magenta, Yellow, Photo-Cyan,
Photo-Magenta)

A/ Any 2 \$14

B/ Any 4 OEM \$48

C/ Any 6 OEM \$96

+1 Free OEM-\$160

D/ Any 7 \$48
+1 Free OEM-\$192

Deal 2

Black only



Compatible with:
Canon BCI-21 Black &
BCI-24 Black
(Includes Black for BCI-21 & BCI-24
Series)

A/ 2 Pack \$10

B/ 4 Pack \$20

C/ 5+1Free \$29

D/ 6+1Free \$34

E/ 7+1 Free \$38

OEM-\$26
OEM-\$51
OEM-\$77
OEM-\$99
OEM-\$103

Deal 3

Colour Only



Compatible with:
Canon BCI-21 Colour &
BCI-24 Colour
(Includes Colour for BCI-21 & BCI-
24 Series)

A/ 2 Pack \$14

B/ 4 Pack \$28

C/ 5+1Free \$38

D/ 6+1Free \$44

E/ 7+1Free \$48

OEM-\$56
OEM-\$112
OEM-\$166
OEM-\$196
OEM-\$224

Deal 4

Black & Colour Combo



Compatible with:
Canon BCI-21 Series &
BCI-24 Series
(Includes Black & Colour cartridges
for BCI-21 & BCI-24 Series)

A/ Bk+1Col \$12

B/ 2Bk+1Col \$17

C/ 2Bk+2Col \$24

D/ 4Bk+2Col \$38

E/ Any 1Free OEM-\$126



ORDERS OVER
\$50 FREE

POSTAGE
(australia-wide)
(Nominal \$4.95 P&H
for other orders)

Secure Online Ordering



VISA MASTERCARD
Visa/Master/Bankcards accepted

Order Form

Deal _____ (E.g. 1A)

Quantity _____

Selection Details _____

Deal _____ (E.g. 1A)

Quantity _____

Selection Details _____

fax Form to: (02) 9943 5072

Mail Form to: PO BOX 401, Turramurra,
NSW, 2074

All prices printed here are correct as of the time of printing. Cartridge Depot reserves the right to change prices according to market conditions. Any special offers may not be offered again. Cartridge Depot reserves the right to withdraw any special offers at any time. \$2 OEM prices are what you would pay to buy the cartridges from the manufacturer. OEM prices quoted here have been taken from Officeworks Dec 2004 catalogue. \$126 is the price of the Canon BCI-21 Series & BCI-24 Series cartridges. Both Canon & Epson® are properties of their owners and are mentioned here for descriptive purposes only.

For Epson® Printers

Deal 5

Any Colour



Compatible with:
Epson T0321, T0422-
T0424, T0461-T0474,
T0491-T0496 Series
(Includes colours Black, Cyan,
Magenta, Yellow, Light-Cyan, Light-
Magenta)

A/ Any 2 \$19
OEM \$40

B/ Any 4 \$38
OEM \$80

C/ Any 6 \$64
+1 Free OEM-\$140

D/ Any 7 \$69
+1 Free OEM-\$160

Deal 6

Black and/or Colour



Compatible with:
Epson T013 / T014
(Includes Black & Colour cartridges)

A/ 1Bk+1Col \$16

OEM-\$54

B/ 2Bk+1Col \$22

OEM-\$68

C/ 2Bk+2Col \$32

OEM-\$108

D/ 4Bk+2Col \$56

+Any1Free OEM-\$166

E/ Black Only \$34

5+1 Free OEM-\$144

F/ Colour Only \$56

5+1 Free OEM-\$160

Deal 7

Black and/or Colour



Compatible with:
Epson T007 / T008 / T009 /
T017 / T018 / T026 / T027 /
T028 / T029 / T038 / T039
(Includes Black & Colour cartridges)

A/ 1Bk+1Col \$24

OEM-\$79

B/ 2Bk+1Col \$29

OEM-\$98

C/ 2Bk+2Col \$44

OEM-\$140

D/ 4Bk+2Col \$69

+Any1Free OEM-\$157

E/ Black Only \$59

5+1 Free OEM-\$168

F/ Colour Only \$69

5+1 Free OEM-\$225

Deal 8

Black and/or Colour



Compatible with:
Epson S020089 / S020093 /
S020097 / S020108 / S020110 /
S020138 / S020187 / S020191 /
S020193 (Includes Black & Colour cartridges)

A/ 1Bk+1Col \$16

OEM \$66

B/ 2Bk+1Col \$22

OEM-\$94

C/ 2Bk+2Col \$30

OEM-\$132

D/ 4Bk+2Col \$56

+Any1Free OEM-\$226

E/ Black Only \$34

5+1 Free OEM-\$168

F/ Colour Only \$56

5+1 Free OEM-\$228

Mr/Mrs/Ms: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Daytime Telephone: (____) _____

Payment Method: Bankcard Visa Mastercard Cheque/Money Order

Please make cheques payable to "Keyland & Associates Pty Ltd"

Name on the Card: _____

Card Number:

Card Exp. Date: ____/____

Signature: X _____

Cartridge Depot Contact Details: Home: www.CartridgeDepot.com.au Mailing Address: PO Box 401 Turramurra NSW 2074

Tel: 1300 736 364 Fax: (02) 9943 5072 Email: sales@cartridgedepot.com.au

Plug N Power

 **SUPER FLOWER**
Always Accompany With You
<http://www.super-flower.com.tw>



► **Expandability**

Plug-N-Power provides additional plug and optional cables to support the latest device on the market.

► **Plug-N as needed**

No more messy cables to hide away inside the case.

► **ATX/BTX Ready Connector**

Support all AMD and Pentium 4 motherboard in both ATX 20 pin and BTX 24 pin form factor.

► **Dedicated Graphic Card Power Cable**

EMI filtered power cable to provide pure power without interruption to your high end ATI and NVIDIA Graphic card.



SF-465



SF-466



SF-901



SF-561



SF-462T1



SF-562



TAIWAN (Manufacturer)

SUPER FLOWER COMPUTER INC.
7F, No. 649-1, Chung - Cheng Road
Hsin-Chuang City, Taipei ,Taiwan 242, R.O.C.
Tel: (+886)2-2908-5366
Fax: (+886)2-2908-5400
E-mail: www@super-flower.com.tw

Australia(Agent)

Australia-OTC Computer.
VIC 03-9545 3966
NSW 02-9748 2750
QLD 07-3899 3811

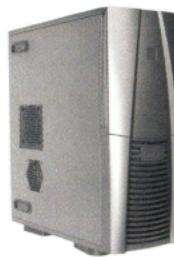
Australia-Westan.

NSW 02-9648 2060
QLD 07-3840 3522
SA 08-8351 6600
VIC 03-9541 8888
WA 08-9445 9688

New Zealand(Agent)

New Zealand-Times Technology
Auckland 09-6201 0000

PERFORMANCE TX



Model	TX635	TX640B	TX1050B	TX108BAMG
Case Type	Mini Tower	Mini Tower	SOHO File Server	SOHO File Server
Case Colour	Beige	Black	Black	Antec Metallic Grey
Case Dimensions	43.8 (H) x 20.5 (W) x 47.2 (D) cm	43.8 (H) x 20.5 (W) x 47.2 (D) cm	52.3 (H) x 20.6 (W) x 47.2 (D) cm	52.3 (H) x 20.6 (W) x 47.2 (D) cm
Power Supply	Smart Power 2.0 350 W	Smart Power 2.0 400 W	Smart Power 2.0 500 W	True Power 2.0 480 W
Drive Bays	ATX12V v2.01	ATX12V v2.01	ATX12V v2.01	ATX12V v2.01
Cooling Capacity	8	8	10	10
- Rear	1 x 120mm TriCool (standard)	1 x 120mm TriCool (standard)	1 x 120mm TriCool (standard)	1 x 120mm TriCool (standard)
- Front	1 x 80mm (Optional) Front	1 x 80mm (Optional) Front	1 x 80mm (Optional) Front	1 x 80mm (Optional) Front
- Chassis	1x 92mm (Optional) CPU Duet	1x 92mm (Optional) CPU Duet	1x 80mm (Optional) HDD	1x 92mm (Optional) HDD
	1 x 80mm (Optional) VGA	1 x 80mm (Optional) VGA	1x 92mm (Optional) CPU Duet	1 x 80mm (Optional) VGA

When Antec's original performance series was launched in 1998, it started the Do-It-Yourself high performance computing revolution. Now we proudly introduce the third generation, Performance TX, redesigned and updated for the latest technologies. All models are designed to meet Intel's Thermally Advanced Chassis (TAC) design guide and come with ATX12V v2.01 power supplies.

Antec
The Power of You

Australian Exclusive Distributor:



www.antech.com.au

Sydney

Sough Business Park
Unit 37, 401 Holker St
Silverwater NSW 2128
Ph 02 9735 5655
Fax 02 9735 5656
sales-sydney@antech.com.au

Melbourne

Building 3
13-15 Brough St
Springvale VIC 3171
Ph 03 9558 5090
Fax 03 9558 5091
sales-mel@antech.com.au

Brisbane

64 Hope St
South Brisbane
QLD 4101
Ph 07 3017 2000
Fax 07 3017 2020
sales-bne@antech.com.au

Perth

Unit 2, 8 Carbon Ct
Osborne Park
WA 6017
Ph 08 9242 8802
Fax 08 9245 7383
sales-wa@antech.com.au

Premium Resellers:

NSW

ARC Computer Pty Ltd
Aus PC Market
TechBuy Pty Ltd

QLD

Umart Online
Computer Alliance
Game Duds Pty Ltd

VIC

IT Computer Supermarket
Digiplex

SA

Getright International

WA

Austin Computers

www.arc.com.au
www.supersmarket.com.au
www.techbuy.com.au
www.umart.com.au
www.computeralliance.com.au
www.gameduds.com.au
www.itcomputersupermarket.com.au
www.digiplex.com.au
www.getright.com.au
www.austin.net.au

Sub-Distributors:

SA Leader Computer Systems (08) 8112 6000 www.leadersystems.com.au

Video Capture Devices & HD Digital TV Tuners

Digital-MagicPro

Analogue & DV Video Editing Box for PC & Notebook

RRP
\$499



Component,
S-Video,
RCA In/Out



July 2005

- * Hardware Converter work on All PC
- * High Quality Video Editing
- * PAL & NTSC Auto switch
- * 720X576-Pixel+48KHz
- * No Hardware Compatibility Problem
- * Captured Video A/V Always in-Sync
- * Works with all video editing software

PocketHDTV

95 X 70 X 12mm Palmsize

USB Powered, **True USB2**

Receive All HD/SD Channels

1920X1080-Pixel Video

AC3/Dolby5.1 Audio

Guaranteed A/V Sync

Auto & Manual Tuning

Teletext/Subtitle/EPG, Timeshift: Pause/Jump

WinXP/2K Drivers, Leather Pouch included



RRP: **\$149**

Hot

PCIHDTV

1920X1080-Pixel Video

AC3/Dolby5.1 Audio

Guaranteed A/V Sync

Powerful Channel Editing

Always-on Timeshifting,

Teletext/Subtitle/EPG

BDADriver on WinXP/2K

Works on MCE2005 &

Many PVR/TV Software



RRP **\$119**

Retail box

OEM **\$95**

Dual Tuner HDTV



Watch /record Two TV channels on one PC: **\$199 retail**
\$175 oem

Retail Package inc.:

2xPCI Tuner Cards

BDA Drivers

Full TV Software & Manual

Get 2 TV Channels in 1 PC at Same Time
Built-in Software: 2 Record 2 Watch
MCE2005 Software: 2 Record 1 Watch

FireDTV

The World Only
Firewire HDTV Tuner



RRP **\$399**

DVB-T or DVB-S

- * Video 1920X1080-Pixels
- * AC3/Dolby5.1 Audio
- * Edit Channel Frequencies
- * Teletext / Sub-Title
- * EPG & Direct Jump Scheduling
- * Timeshift Pause/Resume Anytime
- * Definable Size Split-File Record
- * Adjust Colours for Recorded File
- * Manual & Scheduled Recording
- * BDA Driver for MCE2005

Fusion MPEG2 USB

-- USB Powered Hardware Encoder
For DVD/SVCD/VCD/DivX Video.



- * Win XP/98/Me/2K
- * UleadVideoStudio7
- * USB2/1.1

RRP **\$349**

- * Capture A/V Sync Video
- * High-Quality Video
- * Low-PC Requirement
- * Realtime Colour Adjust
- * Hardware Audio Gain
- * Still Image Grabbing

4-Camera Surveillance Capture

RRP **\$199**



- * Max. 16 Cameras/PC, Pal&NTSC
- * Capture MPEG4 Files
- * Remote Access via LAN/WAN
- * Internet, Auto E-mail-out,
- * Multiple Users run on Win2K & XP

Wireless Colour Camera

- * Transmit Video & Audio
- * Clear & Stable Video
- * inc. Power Adaptors

RRP **\$135**



Directly Imported, Expert-Tested, Technically Supported & Fully Guaranteed by
Video Capture Specialist **Inventa Australia Pty Ltd**: 102 / 288 Wattle St., Ultimo NSW 2007

Tel: 02-95186100 Fax: 02-95186300 Web: www.inventa.com.au E-Mail: info@inventa.com.au



BETTER PHOTOS



BETTER VIDEOS



BETTER GAMES



BETTER PERFORMANCE

Experience The Ultimate Gaming Power



**WinFast®
PX-7800 TDH**

WinFast PX6200 TC TDH



With
TurboCache
Technology

On board 128/64MB

- ◆ Supporting **256MB**
- ◆ NVIDIA GeForce 6200 TC GPU
- ◆ Support D-sub, DVI & HDTV output
- ◆ Support Microsoft DirectX 9.0c/ OpenGL 1.5

WinFast PX6600 TD



My VIVO

- ◆ NVIDIA GeForce 6600 GPU
- ◆ Support **256MB DDR**
- ◆ Support D-sub, DVI & HDTV output
- ◆ Support VIVO function

Shopwise Classifieds

For Advertising enquiries contact:
Katina Goussetis - 02 9288 9147 - kgoussetis@acp.com.au

PCUSER
MULTIMEDIA

CD & DVD Duplication



Professional Disc Duplication Services

Super fast turnaround / Competitive Prices

Custom Silkscreen Printing on Blank CD-R

Visit our web site for full range of services

www.diskmax.com.au

 sales@diskmax.com.au
DISKMAX (02) 9699 3333

 **Server101**
WEB HOSTING

• web hosting • dedicated servers • domain registration • partner programs
Level 12/301 Coronation Drive Milton • PO Box 1508, Milton BC Queensland 4064 • ph:07 3876 6101 • fx:07 3876 3101

Did you know...?

\$140.00
/2 years

secure your **.com.au**
domain name now
for only

\$79.00
/2 years

+ FREE domain transfers

Server101 now offers
discounted domains in
addition to their popular
web hosting packages!

Call now **(07)3876-6101**
or visit us online at
www.Server101.com

web hosting

Server101 is your local web hosting solutions provider. We are known for our **fast, reliable service & outstanding technical support**.

Featuring:

- 3GB traffic
- 70mb of space
- 15 Mailboxes
- frontpage
- php/perl
- **FREE setup**
- **FREE spam filtering**
- & lots more...

plans start at
\$14.60
per month
basic account

eCommerce

Build your online store with **Server101's integrated shopping cart solution**. It's **easy to use & fully customisable** so you can reflect your unique brand.

Featuring:

- Payment gateway support
- Fully customisable
- User friendly store management
- Secure server
- **FREE trial**
- & lots more



plans start at
\$28.30
per month
premium account

why Server101?

“As eBusiness consultants in the Internet and Web development industry, it is essential that we refer our clients to the **best hosting service available**.

We found that to be **Server101** - it's **100% reliable** and we always receive **fast, friendly and efficient customer service**”



CD & DVD DUPLICATION

BUSINESS CARD AND MINI CDs

IN HOUSE MULTIMEDIA, DESIGN,

PRINTING & PACKAGING

DVD AUTHORING

ANY QUANTITY



MultipliCD

CD DUPLICATION SERVICES



689 Malvern Rd, Toorak, Vic, 3142
www.duplication.com.au
Email: sales@duplication.com.au
PH: (03) 9827 6588

Mobilise your business with mobile data technology

We supply a complete range of products to enable you to make the most of handheld terminals and bar code scanners to improve business processes and increase business efficiency. We offer a comprehensive range of handheld terminals and bar code scanners, plus to meet your mobile data needs select from one of our range of software products. Use our software products for simple bar code data collection, Questor for quick and easy structured data collection on Pocket PC devices or our top of the line Pendulum software to create full featured mobile data applications. Download demos and trial versions from our website at www.mdtpy.com.au or call us on 1800 737 660 to discuss your requirements. Reseller enquiries welcome.

Order your mobile data hardware and combined hardware/Pendulum bundles on line at www.mdtpy.com.au.



*Prices correct at time of going to press but may vary - check website for latest prices. Prices quoted exclude carriage.



SYMBOL SPT1550

The entry level Palm OS bar code scanning terminal. Comes complete with Easybar - easy to use bar code data collection software. SPT1550/Easybar kit \$799 (\$678 inc GST).



Questor for Windows

The ultimate in quick and easy 'user configurable' data collection for MS Pocket PC based devices. Simple 'Questionnaire' design approach makes setting up data collection a snap. Supports bar code scanning. Questor software \$235 (\$205.50 inc GST). Special pricing available when you order Questor with a compatible handheld terminal.



SYMBOL MC50

The Pocket PC 2003 based 'Enterprise PDA' from Symbol - built in bar code scanner with choice of keyboard layouts from \$1400 (\$1540 inc GST).

Symbol MC50/Pendulum Starter Kits from \$1619 (\$1780.90 inc GST).



SYMBOL MC9000S

A full top of the line heavy duty Pocket PC 2003 Handheld terminal. Ideal for warehouse or portable applications. Built in bar code scanner, also available in Wireless LAN or GPRS enabled versions. Standard models from \$2764 (\$3040 inc GST). All other Symbol MC9000 series versions available.



PENDULUM SOFTWARE

Create applications that look and feel like full Pocket PC apps without the need for programming skills. Choose from Pendulum Data Collector (Starter Suite \$122.50 inc GST) or the full Pendulum Application Builder with database and remote communications capability (Starter Suite \$1247.50 + GST). Special pricing available when you order Pendulum with a compatible handheld terminal.



STOCKTAB
StockTab is our easy to use package that enables stock checking using handheld computers. StockTab works with any accounts package that has the facility to export your current stock file as a text file, or via direct ODBC database access. StockTab is ideal for MYOB or Quicksbooks users. StockTab software \$499 (\$548.90 inc GST). StockTab with Symbol MC50 starter kit \$1999 (\$2198.90 inc GST).



PC BARCODE SCANNER

75mm CCD bar code scanner, available in USB, KB wedge and RS232 versions from \$119 (\$130.90 inc GST).

Go to www.mdtpy.com.au to see more of our range

Mobile Data Technology Pty Ltd
MDT

See our website for more options/details variants.

Call 1800 737 660

www.mdtpy.com.au

All items subject to availability. E & O.E.

All trademarks acknowledged.

2 years GST inc
com.au \$52.00

1 year GST inc
.com \$13.00

1300 130 317

http://host.smartartist.com.au

BUYERS GUIDE

Hardware • Software • Supplies • Books • Games

July-August 2005

Microsoft Office Student & Teacher Edition 2003

Microsoft Office Student and Teacher Edition 2003 is a suite of popular Microsoft Office personal productivity applications that is priced affordably for students and teachers in grades K – 12 and institutions of higher education. Office Student and Teacher Edition 2003 includes these core Office programs: Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Excel, Microsoft Office Outlook®, and Microsoft Office PowerPoint®.

See Page 37

Our Price **\$165**

Save **\$34**

WebCode

MSA4237



CITY SOFTWARE
Black Tie Service, Plain Wrap Prices*

IN THIS EDITION

Stay In Touch On The Road2
With the Vodafone Blackberry devices.

Music On The Move11
The Sandisk Sansa Mp3 player has arrived!

Make Free Calls Pc To Pc22
Hot new Voip phone solution from Comsol.

Mind Your Own Business!40
MYOB has a range of financial and accounting software to get you back on track!

Convert to PDF!45
Scansoft's new PDF create and convert range will have you putting out professional PDF documents in no time!

Mac Attack!47
Get the hottest and latest Mac products from City Software!

Maxtor Shared Storage Drive 300GB

Shared storage for your small office or home network. Automatic network configuration makes installation a breeze. The Shared Storage Drive looks like a local drive on each configured PC on your network. Privacy is easy with a web browser interface for making shared folders either full or limited access.

See Page 26

Our Price **\$498**

Save **\$31**

WebCode

MAX0071



D-Link 54Mbps Wireless Travel Router (DWL-G730AP)

The D-Link AirPlusG DWL-G730AP is a portable and convenient wireless solution for the traveling business person delivering 802.11g wireless connectivity with a maximum wireless signal rate of up to 54Mbps. Use it in conference rooms, hotel rooms, or even at hotspots. The DWL-G730AP can be used as an access point, router or wireless client.

See Page 13

Our Price **\$142**

Save **\$38**

WebCode

DLK9240





The World's Largest Mobile Community

Vodafone \$199 Business Cap

Pay \$199 a month and get \$700 worth of standard calls, TXT & voicemail shared across 2-4 mobiles*

- Stay in control of your business mobile costs
- 10c per 5 minute calls within your TEAM and back to the office
- More than four mobiles? We have a range of Caps for you to upgrade to, depending on your business needs
- Change your Cap up or down each month - you decide what meets your business needs
- No lock-in contract

*Available to credit approved applicants only. Additional charges apply for excluded services and usage exceeding the usage cap. All unused cap value is forfeited at the end of the monthly billing period.

Please call our Managed Accounts team on 1300 761 761 for queries on Vodafone products and prices.



BLACKBERRY 7100vi

Send and receive emails, access the internet and your office network, while doing business on the move.

- Emails sent to the palm of your hand
- Works as a mobile and PDA
- Unique user-friendly menu
- Lightweight and pocket sized
- \$1 per day for up to 500 emails/ 1MB per month on Mobile Email 30**

**On Mobile Email 30 if you go over your limit of 500 emails (or 1MB of data) in a month, you will be upgraded to the Mobile Email 50 Bundle and will be charged an additional \$25 for the rest of the month

\$711

Save \$88

WedCode: VOD7102



VODAFONE MOBILE CONNECT

Vodafone Mobile Connect is the quick, secure way to access email and internet via your laptop, via the Vodafone GPRS network.

- Access your office on the move
- Takes as little as 5 minutes to set up
- Fast, secure connection
- No cords, no cables, no plugs
- Get unlimited internet access for just \$49.95 per month***

\$231

Save \$68

WedCode: VOD7271

***For credit approved applicants. Fair use policy applies and may affect usage over 500MB a month

**Century CD/
DVD 100 Disk
Storage**

The safe and convenient way to store and retrieve your important data and entertainment. Provides 100 disc capacity per CDD unit.

**Price to
clear!**



**Our
Price \$69
Save \$30**
WebCode: GD50001

**Kensington
Security
Notebook
ComboSaver**

- No keys to lose - one piece design is easy to use
- Attachment to built-in Kensington security slot found on 95% of all notebook computers
- Strong, six-foot cable is an effective physical and visual deterrent to theft.
- Cable securely anchors computer to any immovable object.



**Our
Price \$60
Save \$42**
WebCode: KEN0030

**Imation Disc
Stakka**

The Imation Disc Stakka is an automated carousel that gives you a simple and efficient way to manage and protect your disc library. Each unit stores and protects up to 100 data CDs, DVDs, music or game discs and files to your computer via a USB connection. The bundled OptiDrafter software enables you to search its database of stored discs by title, keyword, directory or file name to find and eject any disc within seconds.



**Our
Price \$171
Save \$28**
WebCode: MMW1214

HP ProLiant ML350 G4 Server + Microsoft Small Business Standard Bundle**Outstanding performance, affordable price**

Value is a hallmark of ProLiant servers, and the ProLiant ML350 server is no exception. It combines the latest Intel processors with high-performance I/O and memory technology at a price that fits smaller budgets.

Simplified management, from setup to updates

The ProLiant ML350 server is designed for simplified access and easy management. HP ProLiant Essentials software, including SmartStart, is shipped with your server, so you can be up and running quickly. For ongoing management, HP Systems Insight Manager monitors and alerts on server status, so staff can focus on priority projects. And with the Lights Out technology of HP Remote Insight Lights-Out Edition II (RIOLO II), you can view the server console and install updates anytime, anywhere—even when the OS is down.

Windows Small Business Server 2003 Standard Edition

Includes Windows Server 2003 and Exchange Server 2003 technology. Get the capabilities of a security-enhanced small-business network with storage, printing, collaboration, e-mail, Internet connectivity, support for mobile workers, and faxing.

Series: ProLiant ML350

Manufacturer #: 356003-011

Processor: Xeon 3.2GHz Upgradable to 2 Processors

Memory (Ram): 512MB PC2700 DDR

Cache memory: Integrated 1MB Level 2 cache

Hard Drive: 2 x 72GB 10,000 RPM SCSI

HDD Controller: Dual Channel Ultra320 SCSI Adapter

Optical Storage: 48X IDE CD-ROM Drive

Ethernet: NC1761 PCI Gigabit NIC

Ports: 1 x Parallel, 1 x Serial, 1 x Pointing Device, 1 x VGA, 1 x Kbd, 1 x RJ-45, 3 x USB Ports

Slot Totals: 1 x 133MHz PCI-X, 2 x 100MHz PCI-X, 1 x 66MHz PCI-X, 1 x PCI-E X8, 1 x PCI-E X4

Form Factor: Tower or 5U rack

Warranty: 3 Years Limited Warranty (3 Years Parts; 3 Years Labour & 3 Years On-Site); Global Warranty

Our Price \$4892 Save \$103

WebCode: COB4223



HP DX 6100 MT model displayed

HP DX 2000 MT model displayed

HP Desktops

Series: DX6120 Slim Tower

Manufacturer #: PV039PA

Processor: Intel Celeron 2.66 GHz

Memory (Ram): 512MB PC3200 DDR2

Video Card: Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 900

Hard Drive: 80GB 7200rpm

Optical Storage: DVD Combo

Ethernet: Integrated Broadcom NetXtreme Gigabit

Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Professional

Keyboard: 2004 Standard Keyboard

Mouse: 2-Button Scroll Mouse

Warranty: 3yr parts, 1yr labour, 1yr onsite

Our Price \$899 Save \$50

WebCode: COD1041



Series: DX6120 Microtower

Manufacturer #: PV026PA

Processor: Intel Celeron 2.66 GHz

Memory (Ram): 512MB PC3200 DDR2

Video Card: Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 900

Hard Drive: 160GB 7200rpm

Optical Storage: CDRW

Ethernet: Integrated Broadcom NetXtreme Gigabit

Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Professional

Keyboard: 2004 Standard Keyboard

Mouse: 2-Button Scroll Mouse

Warranty: 3yr parts, 1yr labour, 1yr onsite

DX6120 Slim Tower

Manufacturer #: PV031PA

Processor: Intel Pentium 4 Processor 520 2.8GHz

Memory (Ram): 512MB PC3200 DDR2

Video Card: Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 900

Hard Drive: 80GB 7200rpm

Optical Storage: DVD Combo

Ethernet: Integrated Broadcom NetXtreme Gigabit

Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Home

Keyboard: 2004 Standard Keyboard

Mouse: 2-Button Scroll Mouse

Warranty: 3yr parts, 1yr labour, 1yr onsite

DX6120 Microtower

Manufacturer #: PV027PA

Processor: Intel Pentium 4 Processor 520 2.8GHz

Memory (Ram): 512MB PC3200 DDR2

Video Card: Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 900

Hard Drive: 80GB 7200rpm

Optical Storage: DVD Combo

Ethernet: Integrated Broadcom NetXtreme Gigabit

Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Professional

Keyboard: 2004 Standard Keyboard

Mouse: 2-Button Scroll Mouse

Warranty: 3yr parts, 1yr labour, 1yr onsite

Our Price \$899 Save \$50

WebCode: COD1037

Our Price \$1099 Save \$50

WebCode: COD1042

Our Price \$1195 Save \$50

WebCode: COD1038

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?

Call 1300 658 600 or visit: www.csw.com.au as prices may change due to the daily fluctuations in the market and online discounts. Any price is subject to 10% off the RRP.

Certance DDS-5 External Tape Drive

Certance's DDS5 technology provides reliable and affordable tape data protection for the small and medium businesses.

- Up to 72GB Capacity on a single cartridge
- Includes Yosemite TapeWare XE Backup Software (Windows, Linux & Network)
- Up to 25.2GB/hr
- 3 Year Warranty



Our Price \$1321 **Save \$78**

WebCode: CER0006

Certance LTO 2 External Tape Drive

Certance's LTO 2 tape drives balance price with capacity/performance a perfect match for the medium-to-large businesses.

- Capacity up to 400GB per cartridge
- Enterprise class performance up to 245GB/hr
- Full backward compatibility with LTO1 tape drives from all manufacturers



Our Price \$4520 **Save \$117**

WebCode: CER0020

Snap Appliance 2200

Add a whisper-silent file server with RAID for a fraction of the cost of a traditional file server.

- 500GB, Simple, award-winning user interface for ease of management
- RAID 1 (mirroring), 0 (striping) or JBOD (just a Bunch Of Disks)
- 100Base-TX/10Base-T Ethernet connectivity



Our Price \$2450 **Save \$110**

WebCode: SNA0030

Snap Appliance 4200

High-end features and an attractive price point drive down the cost of工作组 storage in your enterprise. No other storage server offers so much for so little.

- 2.0 GHz Intel processor
- Up to 3GB of Double Data Rate (DDR) memory
- Dual Gigabit Ethernet ports
- Integrated Computer Associates eTrust antivirus software
- Backup agent support for CA, VERITAS and Legato



Our Price \$5153 **Save \$302**

WebCode: SNA1000

Tandberg SDLT320 External Drive Kit

The SDLT 320 presents a major advance in capacity and performance over the very popular DLT8000.

- 320GB* of Compressed Capacity
- Kit includes: 1 SLDT Media, SCSI Cable & Terminator and Power Cord
- 3 Years Advanced Replacement Warranty*



Our Price \$4275 **Save \$170**

WebCode: TAN0020

Tandberg 420 LTO 2 Internal Drive

The world's most compact LTO2 drive with unrivaled performance. NEW Half Height Internal LTO2 bare drive. LTO2 capacity at LTO1 prices!

- Up to 400GB* Capacity
- Space saving half height design
- Up to 173GB/hr performance
- 3 Years Advanced Replacement Warranty

FREE
3 Pieces of
LTO2 Media*



*Offer valid until end of August 2005

Our Price \$2928 **Save \$48**

WebCode: TAN0003

Tandberg LTO 2 HH StorageLoader

NEW StorageLoader LTO2 Half Height offers capacity and performance as well as advanced data management features in a compact low profile 1U form factor.

- 8 Slots, up to 3.2TB* capacity
- 1U Form factor
- Includes: Rack mount kit, SCSI Cable & Terminator and Power Cord
- 3 Years Advanced Replacement Warranty*



Our Price \$6988 **Save \$1462**

WebCode: TAN0005

Tandberg M1500 LTO 2 Tape Library

Modular & Stackable Data Protection.

- Enterprise class automated tape library with expandability and upgradability*
- 25 Slots Capacity (up to 10TB*)
- Single or Dual Drive Configuration
- LVD SCSI Connection (optional FC)
- Barcode Reader
- 3 Years Advanced Replacement Warranty*



Our Price \$14,500 **Save \$500**

WebCode: TAN0006

Certance LTO 3 External Tape Drive

Certance's LTO 3 solution provides the largest capacity of any LTO technology to date, at the lowest price points.

- Up to 800GB capacity on a single cartridge
- Up to 490GB/hr
- Backward compatible with LTO 2 and LTO 1 media
- 3 Years Warranty



Our Price \$8020 **Save \$201**

WebCode: CER002

MGE NOVA 600VA UPS

Most cost effective Line Interactive UPS available on the market today. A perfect mate for protection of personal and professional PC.

- Automatic Voltage Correction
- Wide Tolerance to fluctuations (160V to 290V)
- Telephone/Fax/Modem Line Filtering
- USB Comm Port & Management SW
- 2 Years Warranty



NEW

Our Price \$112 **Save \$8**

WebCode: MGE0031

Snap Appliance 4500

Industry-leading performance and capacity for departmental storage for your enterprise. No other 10U storage server matches its performance, capacity and feature set.

- Ideal for: File sharing, near-line storage, on-line backup, remote office server
- Every Snap Server 4500 can support up to two Snap Disk 10 expansion arrays for easy to manage, best-in-class storage expansion
- 1 Terabyte storage



Our Price \$9588 **Save \$112**

WebCode: SNA0990

MGE Evolution 1500VA Rack UPS

High Density, True Sinewave Power Protection for server, storage and networking equipment.

- 1U Design, Rack Mount included
- USB & Serial Communication
- Automatic Voltage Regulation
- Management SW for PC and MAC
- 2 Years Warranty



Tandberg 420 LTO 2 External Kit

NEW Half Height External LTO2 drive kit. Industry leading performance at an affordable price.

- Up to 400GB* Capacity
- Revolutionary half height design
- Includes SCSI Cable and Terminator
- 3 Years Advanced Replacement Warranty

FREE
3 Pieces of
LTO2 Media*



*Offer valid until end of August 2005

Our Price \$3278 **Save \$53**

WebCode: TAN0004

Tandberg Viking FS-400 NAS

NEW 1TB NAS appliance, perfection addition for department storage and enterprise. Ideal for file sharing, near-line storage, disk to disk backup and remote office server.

- Microsoft OS
- 4 HDD with 1TB Capacity
- Rack mount kit
- RAID 1 and 5
- 3 Years Advanced Replacement Warranty*



Our Price \$6242 **Save \$103**

WebCode: TAN0007

SonicWALL TZ150 Firewall/ Switch

Low cost, easy-to-use layered protection for small/medium businesses.

- Secure remote VPN Access
- Deep Packet Inspection
- (5) 10/100 Ethernet (WAN, 4 port LAN Switch)
- Supports up to 10 nodes
- Supports DES, 3DES, AES



Our Price \$506 **Save \$186**

WebCode: SWL0303

HP Notebooks

Series: NX6120
Manufacturer #: PV131PA
Processor: Intel Celeron M Processor 360 1.4GHz
Memory (Ram): 256MB 333MHz DDR
Video Card: Intel® Graphics Media Accelerator 900
Hard Drive: 40GB 5400rpm
Optical Storage: DVD/CD-RW Combo
Display: 15" TFT XGA
Modem/Ethernet: High speed 56K modem, 10/100/1000 NIC
Pointing Device: Touchpad With Scroll Zone
Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Professional
Weight: 2.75kg
Warranty: 1 Year

Our Price \$1365 **Save \$30**
WebCode: HCN0008

HP NC6220 notebook displayed



HP nx6120 notebook displayed

PRICE MAY DROP!
Call For Pricing

PRICE MAY DROP!
Call For Pricing

Toshiba Tecra A3 Notebook

- Tecra A3 (PTA30A-01U002)
- Intel Pentium M Processor 1.7GHz
- 512MB DDR PC2720 Memory
- Intel Graphics Media Accelerator 900
- 80GB 5400rpm Hard Drive
- DVD SuperMulti Optical Storage
- 15" TFT XGA Display
- V92 modem, 10/100 TX-LAN
- 802.11abg WiFi



image used for illustration purposes only

Our Price \$2288 **Save \$77**
WebCode: TO52557

Toshiba Portege M300 Notebook

- Portege M300 (PPM30A-02E001)
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® M Processor 733 ULY 1.2GHz, 256MB+256MB, 12.1" XGA, 60GB
- DVD Super Multi (DVD±RW DVD-ROM), SD media slot, modem, LAN, Integrated Intel mini PCI card (802.11b/g), Integrated Bluetooth V1.2
- Integrated Touchpad, (Optional)



image used for illustration purposes only

Our Price \$3529 **Save \$101**
WebCode: TO54022

Toshiba Portege M200 Tablet

- Portege M200 (PPM21A-02R889)
- Intel® Pentium® M Processor 725 1.6GHz 2MB L2 Cache 400MHz FSB, 512MB 533MHz DDR
- 12.1" TFT SXGA+
- 80GB, modem, LAN
- integrated Intel wireless LAN mini-PCI card (802.11b/g)
- Integrated Bluetooth, (Optional) USB FDD), Touchpad, 2 x USB (2.0)
- MS OneNote

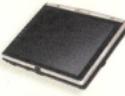


image used for illustration purposes only

Our Price \$3830 **Save \$130**
WebCode: TO53506

IBM Notebooks

Series: R50
Manufacturer #: 1834KM7
Processor: Intel Celeron Mobile 1.4GHz
Memory (Ram): 256MB 266MHz DDR
Video Card: 64MB ATI 855GM
Hard Drive: 30GB ATA-100
Optical Storage: DVD/CD-RW Combo
Display: 14.1 Backlit TFT
Modem/Ethernet: 56K Modem, 10/100
Pointing Device: Trackpoint
Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Pro
Weight: 2.9kg
Warranty: 1 year

Our Price \$1263 **Save \$36**
WebCode: IBM4851

IBM R51 model displayed



IBM X40 model displayed

Series: R51
Manufacturer #: 2887GVM
Processor: Intel Pentium M 725 1.60GHz
Memory (Ram): 512MB 333MHz DDR
Video Card: Intel Extreme Graphics 2
Hard Drive: 60GB ATA-100
Optical Storage: DVD/CD-RW Combo
Display: 15.1 Backlit TFT
Modem/Ethernet: 56K Modem, 10/100, WiFi
Pointing Device: ThinkPad UltraNav
Operating System: Microsoft Windows XP Pro
Warranty: 1 year

Our Price \$1732 **Save \$217**
WebCode: IBM4796

G41

2881BPM

Mobile Intel Prescott 3.33GHz

256MB 333MHz DDR

NVIDIA GeForce FX Go5200

40GB ATA-100

DVD/CD-RW Combo

15.1 Backlit TFT

15.1 Backlit TFT

56K Modem, 10/100/1000, WiFi

Trackpoint

Microsoft Windows XP Pro

Microsoft Windows XP Pro

1 year

T43

266884M

Intel Pentium M 750 1.86GHz

512MB 533MHz DDR

ATI Mobility RADEON x300

40GB ATA-100

CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo

15" Backlit TFT

56K Modem, 10/100/1000, WiFi

ThinkPad UltraNav

Microsoft Windows XP Pro

Microsoft Windows XP Pro

1 year

Our Price \$2304 **Save \$295**
WebCode: IBM4798

Our Price \$3451 **Save \$98**
WebCode: IBM4200

**PHILIPS****O₂****palmOne****TFT Screen Clean**

For use on all coated and non-coated Laptop, Notebook, TFT, Plasma, LCD, PDA, GPS, Mobile, basically any screen or monitor. Extensively tested by Users and Manufacturers. Laboratory and Industry test have shown that CleanSafe will clean and protect all screen surfaces.

**Our Price \$18****Save \$4**

WebCode

CLE0001

Samsung Black 17" LCD Monitor 710V

Synmaster 710V has a slim and stylish design. With a stunning picture resolution, it provides marvellous performance that is flexible for your working preference.

- 17" Viewable Area
- 290 cdm² Brightness
- 500:1 Contrast Ratio
- 140° Viewing Angle (H/V)
- 25 ms Response Time
- Analog Interface
- 1280x1024 Max. Resolution

**Our Price \$354****Save \$145**

WebCode

SAM1742

Philips 17" Business Silver SXGA LCD monitor

- Resolution: 1280 x 1024
- Brightness: 250 nits
- Contrast Ratio: 500:1
- Response time: 8 ms
- Size inc base: 375W x 377H x 210D
- Weight: 4.8kg



High performance for demanding users

Our Price \$408**Save \$306**

WebCode

PH1630

02 XDAII Mini

- MS Win Mobile 2003 Pocket PC Phone Edition
- Intel PXA 272 CPU, Clock speed: 416MHz
- Bluetooth 1.2 compliant
- 2.8" Transflective TFT LCD Screen
- 1.3 mega-pixel VGA camera
- Standby time: 180 hours, Talk time: 4 - 5 hours
- 4 programmable buttons: Camera, Video Recorder, Contact and Calendar
- Colour CMOS 1.3 mega-pixel camera

**Our Price \$930****Save \$269**

WebCode

XDA0300

Palmone LifeDrive Hard Case

A sturdy, stylish case surrounds a LifeDrive mobile manager. Convenient access to buttons and connectors allows user to use device even while it's inside the case.

The brushed aluminum cover contrasted by the black, slip-resistant rubberized back makes it a unique and safe way to carry a LifeDrive mobile manager.

**Our Price \$52****Save \$12**

WebCode

USR9206

02 XDA III Pocket PC & GSM Phone

One of the most powerful Windows Mobile based PDAs available, it's an enhanced version of the popular Xda II and is a personal organiser and a GPS mobile all-in-one. With tri-band coverage for roaming to the USA, a 1.3 megapixel camera for taking high quality pictures, Bluetooth for use with your Bluetooth devices, Xda III is a flexible and sleek device. Use the integrated Wireless LAN for high-speed internet access.

**Our Price \$1456****Save \$143**

WebCode

XDA0400

Samsung Black 19" LCD Monitor 910T

Synmaster 910T has an amazing colour calibration system that gives you perfect performance everytime.

- 19" Viewable Area
- 250 cdm² Brightness
- 800:1 Contrast Ratio
- 170/170 Viewing Angle(H/V)
- 25 ms Response Time
- Analog/Digital Interface
- 1280x1024 Max. Resolution

**Our Price \$569****Save \$530**

WebCode

SAM1917

Philips 19" Business Black SXGA LCD Monitor

- Resolution: 1280 x 1024
- Brightness: 250 nits
- Contrast Ratio: 600:1
- Response time: 8 ms
- Size inc base: 425W x 410H x 235D
- Weight: 6.4kg



Big display for demanding users

Our Price \$603**Save \$386**

WebCode

PH1909

HP iPAQ Pocket PC RZ1710

With the HP iPAQ PC RZ1710, you can increase your storage capacity with SD and MMC memory cards so you can bring essential documents along with you. Transfer documents, multimedia files, and special programs onto memory cards and print using any SD enabled printer.

**Our Price \$379****Save \$20**

WebCode

CQ00117

HP iPAQ Pocket PC RX3417

Tune in to your favourite music and view holiday photos stored on your desktop PC by simply streaming it to your iPAQ. With Media Control, you can get the freedom to play your music, videos and photos on your preferred players, from your desktop PC to your TV and home stereo systems.

**Our Price \$580****Save \$19**

WebCode

COQ00119

Samsung 17" LCD Monitor/Television 730MW

Delivering a 500:1 contrast ratio, 0.289mm pixel pitch, 178 x 168 maximum resolution, scanning frequency of 30-61 kHz horizontal and 56-75 Hz vertical, and horizontal/vertical viewing angle of 150°/120°. The SyncMaster 730mw has a built-in TV tuner (with FM Radio support), is HDTV ready and has dual analog/digital inputs.

**Our Price \$774****Save \$125**

WebCode

SAM1747

Philips 20" Widescreen Silver WSXGA LCD Monitor

- Resolution: 1680 x 1050
- Brightness: 300 nits
- Contrast Ratio: 600:1
- Response time: 16 ms
- Size inc base: 478W x 423.5H x 235D
- Weight: 7.6kg

Your best choice for big, widescreen productivity

**Our Price \$1095****Save \$554**

WebCode

PH1615

Palmone Tungsten T5

- 256MB flash memory
- Transferring files and folders back and forth to your desktop
- Stunning 320 x 480 display, landscape or portrait mode
- Edit Word and Excel docs, view PowerPoint files
- View photos, videos and play MP3s
- Built-in Bluetooth wireless technology
- Powerful Intel 416MHz XScale processor
- Palm OS 5.4

**Our Price \$540****Save \$59**

WebCode

USR1035

Palmone Lifedrive

- 4GB hard drive (3.85GB user accessible)
- LifeDriveTM smart file management
- Wi-Fi (802.11b) and Bluetooth v1.1
- 320 x 240 hi-resolution, colour display
- Supports native Word, Excel, and PowerPoint files
- Portrait and landscape viewing
- Supports secure wireless email with attachments
- Built-in Microsoft Exchange ActiveSync
- MP3 player
- Intel 416MHz XScaleTM processor

**Our Price \$727****Save \$172**

WebCode

USR9203



SONY**Canon****Kodak****OLYMPUS****Panasonic Lumix DMC-LZ1 Digital Camera**

- 4 Megapixel Effective Camera
- 6x Optical Zoom in a compact body
- MEGA Optical Image Stabiliser
- 2.0" TRIM LCD Monitor
- Venus Engine Plus LSI



Winner of the
PC User Magazine
"TOP BUY" Award
- June 2005

Our Price **\$455**Save **\$44**

WebCode: PAN0024

Panasonic Lumix DMC-FZ20 Digital Camera

- 5.0 Megapixel
- 12x Optical Zoom, 4x Digital
- Leica DC Vario-Elmarit Lens
- MEGA Optical Image Stabiliser (O.I.S.)
- Manual Focus Ring

Also Available In Silver
WebCode: PAN0025

Recommended
by PC World In
its December issue
as its pick for best
value intermediate
camera.

Our Price **\$945**Save **\$154**

WebCode: PAN0026

Kodak Easy Share C360 Digital Camera

- The smart C360—designed for all that captivates you.
- 5.0 MP for prints up to 20 x 30 in. (50 x 75 cm).
- 3x optical zoom
- 17 easy-to-access scene modes and 5 color modes
- On-camera picture-enhancing features
- KODAK Color Science Chip

Our Price **\$432**Save **\$17**

WebCode: KOD00360

Kodak Easy Share Digital Camera 5.3MP Z740 + Bundled Printer Dock

Capture extraordinary detail with the Z740 Zoom Digital Camera. 10x optical zoom, 5.0 MP, everything you need to get the shot you want. Then simply dock your camera and touch a button to print real KODAK Pictures that last a lifetime.

Our Price **\$703**Save **\$46**

WebCode: KOD0741

Sony 4.1MP Cyber-shot DSCS40 Digital Camera

\$400 small, yet so powerful - the Cyber-shot DSC-S40 digital camera from Sony provides you with big features at an amazingly small price. With its high quality 1/2.7" Super HAD CCD, 3x optical zoom Carl Zeiss lens, and ultra-fast Real Imaging Processor it captures consistently beautiful 4.1 Megapixel images everytime.

Our Price **\$262**Save **\$37**

WebCode: SONY0333

Sony 5.1MP Cyber-shot DSCW5S Digital Camera

A classic design meets modern technology in the Cyber-shot W5S digital camera from Sony. It combines a traditional rangefinder camera layout with high-end features such as a huge 2.5" LCD screen, 5.1 Megapixel image capture, and high speed performance thanks to the Real Imaging Processor chip.

Our Price **\$529**Save **\$70**

WebCode: SONY0330

Olympus 5.0MP MJU-500 Digital Camera

- Retracting lens barrier
- 3x Optical Zoom
- Large 2.5" High Crystal LCD
- 20 Scene programs
- Super macro mode from as close as 7cm
- Movie recording function with sound
- PictureBridge support and TruePic TURBO
- Supplied with 32MB XD Picture card

Our Price **\$539**Save **\$60**

WebCode: OLY0049

Olympus 4.0MP MJU Mini Digital Camera (Silver)

- 4-megapixel effective CCD for images up to 2272 x 1704 pixels
- Program (Auto), Movie, and 16 Scene program modes
- Shutter speeds from 1/1000 to 1/2 second
- Built-in all-weather speaker and microphone
- Lithium rechargeable battery and charger included

Our Price **\$374**Save **\$25**

WebCode: OLY0046

Canon IXUS 40 Digital Camera

The 4.0 Megapixel IXUS 40 delivers an unparalleled combination of cutting edge technology and ultra compact size. Featuring Canon's revolutionary UA lens technology, the fully retractable 3x optical zoom lens delivers sharp, high resolution images. The new DIGIC II image processor provides fast performance and industry leading image quality. 60fps movie recording and playback with sound

Our Price **\$499**Save **\$130**

WebCode: CAN0337

Canon 5MP Powershot S2IS Digital Camera

- Rock steady ultra-zoom. High resolution photos & movies.
- 5.0 Megapixel
- Canon 12x optical zoom lens with Optical Image Stabilizer.
- Super fast DIGIC II Imaging Processor.
- PrintShare*
- Button for "one push" printing and downloading of images straight from the camera.

Our Price **\$679**Save **\$120**

WebCode: CAN0393

Canon MV800i Digital Video Camera

- Super powerful 20x zoom lens
- High resolution 800K pixel CCD and DIGIC DV
- Stylish and compact, designed for simple operation
- Real Widescreen recording for breathtaking playback on widescreen TVs
- Image Stabilizer function
- Night Mode

Our Price **\$682**Save **\$47**

WebCode: CAN0366

Sony DVD201 DVD Handycam

- DVD-RW/R
- Carl Zeiss Lens
- 120x / 20x Selectable Digital zoom
- 2.5" LCD Hybrid Screen
- Advance HAD Technology
- Start/Stop Button on LCD Frame
- Video Out mirror
- Multi-List Edit, Add, Delete, Move, Divide
- Photomovie Create
- Automatic White Balance

Our Price **\$1514**Save **\$235**

WebCode: SONY7299

Secure Digital Cards

- SanDisk Secure Digital Card
- 128MB (SIM0201) **\$28**
- 256MB (SIM0202) **\$45**
- 512MB (SIM0387) **\$71**
- 1GB (SIM0388) **\$136**



SanDisk Secure Digital Ultra

• 512MB (SIM0711) **\$71**• 1GB (SIM5987) **\$162****Compact Flash Cards**

- SanDisk
- 128MB (SIM0188) **\$24**
- 256MB (SIM0189) **\$41**
- 512MB (SIM0190) **\$70**
- 1GB (SIM0191) **\$130**
- 2GB (SIM0690) **\$258**

SanDisk Ultra II

- 256MB (SIM0193) **\$47**
- 512MB (SIM0194) **\$84**
- 1GB (SIM1002) **\$155**
- 2GB (SIM0691) **\$292**

SanDisk XD

- 128MB (SIM0195) **\$47**
- 256MB (SIM0196) **\$84**
- 512MB (SIM0197) **\$155**
- 1GB (SIM0692) **\$292**

SanDisk XD Picture

- 128MB (SIM0198) **\$24**
- 256MB (SIM0199) **\$41**
- 512MB (SIM0200) **\$70**
- 1GB (SIM0201) **\$130**
- 2GB (SIM0690) **\$258**

xD Picture Cards

- Olympus
- 128MB (OLY0013) **\$39**
- 256MB (OLY0010) **\$70**
- 512MB (OLY0018) **\$125**

SanDisk

- 64MB (SIM0283) **\$26**
- 128MB (SIM0384) **\$49**
- 256MB (SIM0385) **\$77**
- 512MB (SIM0382) **\$121**

SanDisk Memory Stick

- 64MB (SIM0207) **\$63**
- 128MB (SIM0207) **\$99**
- 256MB (SIM0207) **\$187**
- 512MB (SIM0390) **\$385**

SanDisk Memory Stick Pro

- 128MB (SIM0704) **\$65**
- 256MB (SIM0705) **\$110**
- 1GB (SIM0703) **\$207**

Memory Stick Pro

- 1GB (SMDY21) **\$282**

Sandisk Memory Stick Pro

- 256MB (SIM0207) **\$63**
- 512MB (SIM0707) **\$99**
- 1GB (SIM0209) **\$187**
- 2GB (SIM0390) **\$385**

Sandisk Memory Stick

- 256MB (SIM0704) **\$65**
- 512MB (SIM0705) **\$110**
- 1GB (SIM0703) **\$207**

Sandisk Memory Stick Pro

- 128MB (SIM0703) **\$207**

Digital Cameras

SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

Dymo LabelWriter LW310 USB

The most affordable label printer currently on the market. Suitable for dozens of business, home & office applications including envelopes, stock file folders and shelf labels. Direct thermal technology eliminates toner, ink and ribbon costs. Print width 40mm.



Our Price \$143 **Save \$6**
WebCode DYM0002

Dymo LabelWriter 320

The most versatile label printer for any office. Prints labels up to 56 mm wide for envelopes, packages, file folders, disks, videotapes, name badges and much more. Improved with twice the print quality and 30% faster print speed. Use on USB port, Windows or Mac.



Our Price \$286 **Save \$73**
WebCode DYM0001

Dymo LabelWriter LW330 Turbo, USB & Serial

The fastest label printer available with outstanding print speed of up to 2 seconds per label. Direct thermal technology eliminates toner, ink and ribbon costs. Prints fonts, barcodes, graphics and photos. Print Width: 56mm



Our Price \$319 **Save \$80**
WebCode DYM0003

Wasp Barcode and Label Software Bundle

Wasp Barcode Labeler v5 (single user) with over 40,000 copies sold, Wasp Labeler is the top-selling barcode labelling software in the world! With Labeler v5's thoughtfully designed wizard interface, you can quickly create inventory, asset, address, barcodes & badge - practically any label for any industry. Ideal for Australian small business.

- Label wizard create labels step by step
- Data source wizard - Data linking from multiple tables
- Multiple number of label copies - Barcode image export
- Advanced serialization - Import data from virtually any database
- Import your favorite graphics - Serialize labels
- Print labels to any windows printer - Easy to use!

Label Software (WAS0001) **\$235**

Printer (ZEB0001) **\$200**



Our Price \$2285 **Save \$685**
WebCode BUN0011

Our Price \$710 **Save \$85**
WebCode VAN0023



Wasp Fontware Software

WASP Barcode FontWare (Single User) is a powerful barcode utility that seamlessly integrates TrueType barcode fonts with Microsoft Word and other word processing and database applications. Wasp Bar Code fonts are compatible with all Windows applications including the most common word processors and spreadsheets. Easily create bar codes simply by using a font. Generating bar codes has never been easier!



Our Price \$2499 **Save \$96**
WebCode BUN0008

Our Price \$199 **Save \$76**
WebCode VAN0021



Wasp Mobile Asset Tracking Software Bundle

WASP MobileAsset Software offers the quickest and easiest way to track all your company assets including computers, printers, software, phones, tools, books, even personnel. Features: Add, Edit, Move, Dispose, Check-In/Out & Audit assets

Move by Location, Department, Purchase order or Custom filter

Check-In & Check-Out assets to track who has the asset & when due back.

Print Receipts on the PC & Mobile device

Schedule Maintenance - assets are properly serviced

Attach any type of file to an asset - Pictures, Warranties, User Manuals

Import & Export Asset Data - Create your own asset barcode tags

Calculate Depreciation to determine the value of an asset

Easy, One-click synchronization between your PC and the handheld Data Collector

Secure Logon guards your asset information & tracks "who did what"

Symbol Palm OS Terminal SPT-18X Series

Palm OS platform, integrated miniature scan engine, Dragon Ball VZ - 23 MHz, Rugged housing meets IP54 Standards, 8 RAM and 4Mb of ROM, High-contrast liquid crystal display with enhanced backlight, 1-hour Ni-MH backup battery, 1.2 m drop to concrete, IrDA port, Kit Inc Stylus, Slip Case, Lithium Ion Battery & Quick Reference Guide and Cradle

Mobile Asset Tracking Software (VAN0015) **\$836**

Symbol Palm (VAN0025) **\$1795**

Our Price \$2499 **Save \$96**
WebCode BUN0008

Our Price \$199 **Save \$76**
WebCode VAN0021

Wasp Affordable Employee Time & Attendance

WaspTime Time and Attendance offers computerised and automated time and tracking system with the proven technology of Barcode, Magstripe or RFID-based employee tags and time clocks.

This ready-to-use solution includes:

- Barcode, Magstripe or RFID time clock
- WaspTime - Time and Attendance software
- 25 employee tags either Barcode, Magstripe or RFID (additional tags can be purchased)
- 100 employee tags for 25 employees (additional licenses can be purchased in increments of 50)
- WaspSetup Setup wizard to help with initial configuration
- 2 Ethernet cables (supports either direct to PC or via network)
- Power supply (an optional power-over-Ethernet is available)

Features:

- Proven technology of barcode system
- Automatically capture employee time (arrival time, break in/out, lunch, departure time)
- Automatically calculate hours worked and summarize for reports or payroll processing
- Capture and automatically process overtime
- Ability to capture sick days, vacation, conference time away • Supports, weekly, bi-weekly, bi-monthly, monthly payroll
- Over 12 reports including attendance report, timecard report, wage report, overtime report, payroll summary, absence report, roll call, employee list, early out report... plus create custom reports using Crystal Reports



Barcode Version
Our Price \$852 **Save \$80**
WebCode VAN0018

Magstripe Version
Our Price \$1055 **Save \$85**
WebCode VAN0019

RFID Tag Version
Our Price \$1375 **Save \$110**
WebCode VAN0020

Our Price \$319 **Save \$80**
WebCode DYM0003

Our Price \$852 **Save \$80**
WebCode VAN0018

Our Price \$1055 **Save \$85**
WebCode VAN0019

Our Price \$1375 **Save \$110**
WebCode VAN0020

1300 658 600

Posiflex Hardware Bundle

You can turn a standard PC into a POS Computerised Cash Register when you buy a POSIFLEX hardware bundle. Simply "Plug and play". Includes Posiflex PP5600D Dot-matrix printer, CR4100 Cash Drawer & CD2860 hand Scanner.



Our Price \$627 **Save \$368**

WebCode PDS0022

Posiflex CR-4100 CASH Drawers

Australia's most popular Cash Drawer which is receipt printer activated and designed to hold Australian currency with a tamper-proof designed casing and a removable cash tray for overnight security, it is security by design.

- Three position lock
- Cheque slot
- Supplied with 1 metre cable to connect to Posiflex, Epson, Star, Axiohm & current Citizen printers.
- Dimensions 428 (W) x 460 (D) x 100mm (H).



Our Price \$176 **Save \$49**

WebCode PDS0008

Epson TMT88 Thermal Receipt Printer

"Plug and play" high-speed Thermal Design Printer with clam shell "drop and load" design will work with most POS software applications.

- High-speed up to 150mm per sec
- Auto paper cutter
- Drop & load paper loading
- Prints a wide range of barcode symbologies
- Flash ROM for logo
- Includes Power Supply & Data Cable



Our Price \$605 **Save \$275**

WebCode EP50011

Posiflex CD-2860 Barcode Scanner

The CD2860 contact touch barcode reader has a simple cable configuration. Plug into your PC and you can touch & read barcodes instantly.

- 80mm reading aperture
- 0-30mm scanning distance
- Auto discrimination
- Beeper & LED indicator
- Includes bench stand



Our Price \$143 **Save \$102**

WebCode POS0020

Wasp Captra Mobile Sales Software Bundle

QuickBooks functionality right on your PDA - This product integrates with QuickBooks® Pro, Accountant, Enterprise and the variety of new Premier editions. Main Features:

- CaptraAdmin POA management facility, Update Customer Records
- Prepare, Print and capture Signature on Estimates and Invoices
- Produce and Print Credit Memos, Receive Payments
- Manage Vendor Details, Issue and Print Purchase Orders
- Review Item Pricing, Count Inventory, Integrated Printer Subsystem
- Integrated Barcode Scanning, Cradle, Modem, LAN and Wireless LAN/WAN and internet sync, Remote Synchronization. Handheld works on most Palm OS devices

Symbol Palm OS Terminal SPT 18XX Series

Palm OS platform, Integrated miniature scan engine, Dragon Ball VZ - 33 MHz, Rugged housing meets IP54 Standards, 8 RAM and 4Mb of ROM, High-contrast liquid crystal display with enhanced backlight, 1-hour Ni-MH backup battery, 1.2 m drop to concrete, IrDA port, Kit Inc Stylos, Slip Case, Lithium Ion Battery & Quick Reference Guide and Cradle

Mobile Sales Software (VAN0016) \$505

Symbol Palm (VAN0025) \$1795

Our Price \$2149 **Save \$346**

WebCode BUN0009

**Posiflex PP-5600 DOT Matrix Receipt Printer**

This low-cost Dot Matrix Receipt Printer allows for rapid speed printing with up to three duplicate copies for each receipt issued.

- Tear off cutter blade
- Approx 3.5 lines per sec.
- 20KB input buffer
- Power supply and data cable included
- ESC/POS command compatible



Our Price \$352 **Save \$73**

WebCode PDS0019

Posiflex CD-3830 Barcode Scanner Series

With enhanced performance this long-distance barcode reader has a simple cable configuration. Simply plug into your PC and make barcode reading fast and efficient. Includes upright hands-free stand.



Our Price \$209 **Save \$186**

WebCode POS0021

Wasp Mobile Inventory Software Bundle

Wasp MobileInventory equips you to manage and track your inventory using your desktop PC and your Palm® OS or WindowsCE.NET handheld!

Desktop Features:

- Efficiently manage physical inventory
- Check-in/Check-out inventory items
- Track your inventory by item location, purchase order, supplier, serial number, lot, pallet & date code
- Effortlessly manage location information for each item
- Customize your forms to present only the information that's important to your business
- Define text, numeric, and date fields
- Create, customize & print labels with the integrated Wasp Labeler software

Symbol Palm OS Terminal SPT 18XX Series

Palm OS platform, Integrated miniature scan engine, Dragon Ball VZ - 33 MHz, Rugged housing meets IP54 Standards, 8 RAM and 4Mb of ROM, High-contrast liquid crystal display with enhanced backlight, 1-hour Ni-MH backup battery, 1.2 m drop to concrete, IrDA port, Kit Inc Stylos, Slip Case, Lithium Ion Battery & Quick Reference Guide and Cradle

Mobile Inventory Software (VAN0017) \$662

Symbol Palm (VAN0025) \$1795

Our Price \$2299 **Save \$296**

WebCode BUN0010

**Posiflex PP-7000 "Aura" Thermal Receipt Printer**

The Posiflex PP7000 Thermal Receipt Printer will give your store a professional image with receipts issued at high speed. Easy Drop and Load paper loading.

- High-speed - silent operation
- Up to 180mm per sec
- Auto paper cutter
- Stores graphic logo
- Power supply and data cable included
- ESC/POS command compatible



Our Price \$484 **Save \$211**

WebCode PDS0018

PSC VS800 Omni Directional Bench Scanner

Compact Design, Advanced visible laser scanner system, 20cm scanning depth of field, wide scan area, high first pass read rate, scans a variety of barcodes, includes power supply and cable.

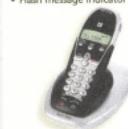


Our Price \$496 **Save \$154**

WebCode PSC0006

Telstra 5100 DECT Cordless Phone

- Calling number display (type 2)
- 50 name and number phonebook
- Multi-handset
- Call waiting button
- Flash message indicator



Our Price **\$50** Save **\$10**
WebCode: CL55100

Telstra 5150 DECT Cordless Phone

- Integrated digital answering machine with 11 min recording time
- Calling Number Display
- Option to connect 5 handsets to one base unit
- Flashing Message Indicator
- 50 name & number phonebook
- Adjustable handset ring volume & melodies
- Handfree on handset
- Answering machine remote access



Our Price **\$83** Save **\$17**
WebCode: CL55150

Telstra F5500 Cordless Telephone

- Send and Receive SMS
- Handfree on handset
- 150 name and number phonebook
- Calling Number display
- Colour graphical display
- SIM card reader
- Handfree headset included
- Option to connect 5 handsets to one base unit



Our Price **\$141** Save **\$29**
WebCode: CL55500

D-Link Wireless Internet/ Security Camera (DCS-900W)

The D-Link DCS-900W is an entry-level Wireless Internet Camera which connects to either 802.11b Wireless or 10/100Mbps Fast Ethernet networks. The DCS-900W features a built-in web server, which means that you do not need to have a computer to stream video images directly to the Internet. The software package bundled with the DCS-900W provides basic security features, with monitoring capability of up to 4 cameras and recording to hard drive.



Our Price **\$317** Save **\$82**
WebCode: DLK1121

D-Link Internet/Security Camera with 2-Way Audio (DCS-3220)

A versatile security system that allows you to watch, listen and talk remotely. The camera connects to an Ethernet network, and to broadband Internet. Equipped with a high-quality CMOS sensor, two-way audio capability and advanced software functions for multi-camera monitoring and management, this camera provides a comprehensive system for surveillance.



Our Price **\$629** Save **\$140**
WebCode: DLK9247

D-Link Indoor 5dBi Wireless Omni-Directional Antenna (DWL-50AT)

The D-Link DWL-50AT is a 5dBi Gain Dipole Antenna with Reverse SMA connector. It can help to improve the transmit range and extend the transmit distance of wireless access point (DWL-1000AP, DWL-900AP) or wireless gateway router (DWL-714) which have a reverse SMA connector. To ensure a better performance, you should not only improve the RF on transmitter but also that on receiver, i.e. a high gain card.



Our Price **\$29** Save **\$6**
WebCode: DLK0310

D-Link Indoor 6dBi Wireless Directional Antenna (ANT24-0600)

The ANT24-0600 2.4GHz Directional Antenna is a range extender antenna that provides output 2 to 5 times higher than that of the 2dBi dipole antennas normally bundled with wireless LAN devices. The ANT24-0600 antenna works with all access points and remote routers equipped with an RP-SMA or RP-TNC connector.



Our Price **\$80** Save **\$19**
WebCode: DLK0140

D-Link 1 port Print Server USB printer (DP-301P)

A compact print server that connects to your Ethernet or Fast Ethernet network. With its high-speed USB port, the DP-301P allows those on your network to access and share a USB printer no matter where they reside on the network. Compact in size, it's equipped with one USB version 1.1 port for seamless connection to most USB printers, and supporting all major network Operating Systems and protocols.



Our Price **\$132** Save **\$27**
WebCode: DLK1598

D-Link 1 port Print Server Parallel printer (DP-301P)

Compared to software-based printer sharing, the DP-301P eliminates the need to have your printer connected to a host computer. With the DP-301P, everyone on your network can be sure that their printing jobs go through at any time. Documents also print faster from the DP-301P than from software-based printer sharing solutions.



Our Price **\$112** Save **\$27**
WebCode: DLK0552

D-Link Hardware accelerated Audio/Video Converter (DUB-AV300)

The DUB-AV300 is an audio/video converter with built-in hardware encoder as well as advanced video display & capture of analog camera, camcorder or VCR. Also supports MPEG1/2/4 Compression on the fly.



Our Price **\$156** Save **\$44**
WebCode: DLK9975

D-Link 5 port Gigabit Switch (DCS-1005D)

Get the blazing speed of Gigabit Ethernet with the DGS-1005, an 5-port 10/100/1000Mbps Gigabit Switch that delivers power, performance, and reliability in one cost-effective, space-saving design. Increase the speed of your network server and backbone connections, or make Gigabit to the desktop a reality. Transfer graphics, CGI, CAD, or multimedia files across the network instantly.



Our Price **\$136** Save **\$40**
WebCode: DLK0665

D-Link Wireless Internet/ Security Camera with Pan/Tilt & Audio (DCS-5300G)

The DCS-5300G Wireless Internet Camera is an advanced security system that allows you to watch, listen and listen remotely. It provides you with high-quality video and audio.

Equipped with built-in Web server, a micro-phone and a motor for rotation, this camera can be panned, tilted and zoom remotely, accessed and controlled from any PC/notebook over a local network or through the Internet.



Our Price **\$919** Save **\$210**
WebCode: DLK9248

D-Link Indoor 7dBi Wireless Omni-Directional Antenna (ANT24-0700)

The ANT24-0700 is a High-Gain omnidirectional antenna designed for 2.4GHz 802.11b band indoor use. It can be used with 802.11b and 802.11g wireless LAN devices such as access points and remote routers. It can be connected to your wireless device through a connection cable (provided with the antenna), or directly attached to your wireless device.



Our Price **\$79** Save **\$20**
WebCode: DLK9345

D-Link Wireless 802.11g Print Server - USB printer (DP-3310)

The Wireless Print Server is the ideal network printing solution for small office, home offices, schools and other businesses that require printer sharing. With its high-speed USB port, the DP-3310 allows those on your network to access and share a USB printer wirelessly no matter where they reside on the network. Equipped with one USB version 2.0 port to most printers.



Our Price **\$220** Save **\$49**
WebCode: DLK1054

D-Link 4 port USB 2.0 + 3 port Firewire Hub (DFB-H7)

The D-Link DFB-H7 USB 2.0/Firewire Combo Hub is a combination 6-port USB 2.0 and 1394 Firewire hub that brings together two popular high-speed technologies for an all-in-one, high-speed, high performance solution for digital media peripherals.



Our Price **\$77** Save **\$12**
WebCode: DLK1033

D-Link 54Mbps Wireless Travel Router (DWL-G730AP)

The D-Link AirPlus DWL-G730AP is a portable and convenient wireless solution for the travelling business person delivering 802.11g wireless connectivity with a maximum wireless signal rate of up to 54Mbps*. Use it in conference rooms, hotel rooms, or even at hotspots. The DWL-G730AP can be used as an access point, router or wireless client.



Our Price \$142 **Save \$38**
WebCode..... DLK240

D-Link 54Mbps Wireless Broadband Router (DI-624+)

The DI-624+ is a high-speed 2.4GHz 802.11g wireless broadband Router with a built-in 4-port Fast Ethernet Switch. It incorporates high-speed wireless with speeds of up to 54Mbps. This router lets you quickly share DSL or cable modem Internet connection, with or without the network wires.



DI-624 108Mbps
Our Price \$159 **Save \$41**
WebCode..... DLK403

DI-624+ 54Mbps
Our Price \$128 **Save \$39**
WebCode..... DLK507

D-Link Wireless PCMCIA Card (DWL-G650+)

This adapter supports high-speed wireless networking of up to 54Mbps, while providing seamless interoperability with all existing 802.11b and 802.11b+ wireless equipment. This adapter is the ideal wireless solution that offers an upgrade to a fast, new technology while protecting your past investments through interoperability with your current network equipment.



DWL-G600 108Mbps
Our Price \$76 **Save \$24**
WebCode..... DLK5401

DWL-G650+ 54Mbps
Our Price \$59 **Save \$20**
WebCode..... DLK5405

D-Link Router With Built-in Switch & USB Print Server (DI-704UP)

A versatile router that combines broadband built-in Internet sharing with robust firewall security, print server and built-in 4-port switch for ready printer and workstation connection. For home and SOHO, as well as for business users looking for advanced functions, network protection and policy-based content filtering.



Our Price \$102 **Save \$28**
WebCode..... DLK115

D-Link Wireless Media Player (DMS-320)

The DMS-320 unites your network with your home entertainment center, allowing you to share, access, and enjoy your digital media. Whether it is music, videos, or photos in the comfort of your living room. The DMS-320 supports 802.11g wireless standards with transfer speeds up to 54Mbps, giving you maximum throughput for your digital media.



Our Price \$352 **Save \$48**
WebCode..... DLK9129

D-Link 54Mbps Wireless PCI Adapter (DWL-G520+)

The DWL-G520+ wireless PCI card is an enhanced 802.11g high-performance, wireless card for desktop computers. This card supports high-speed wireless networking of up to 54Mbps, while providing seamless interoperability with all existing 802.11b and 802.11b+ wireless equipment.



DWL-G520 108Mbps
Our Price \$80 **Save \$20**
WebCode..... DLK5400

DWL-G520+ 54Mbps
Our Price \$65 **Save \$27**
WebCode..... DLK9991

D-Link 54Mbps Wireless VPN Router with Print Server (DI-824VUP+)

A 802.11g wireless VPN router that combines broadband Internet sharing with robust VPN firewall security, print server and built-in 4-port switch for ready printer and workstation connection.



Our Price \$270 **Save \$80**
WebCode..... DLK9221

D-Link USB/Ethernet ADSL Modem (DSL-502T)

Using ADSL technology, your Internet speeds can be up to 150 times faster than a 56K analog modem over a standard phone line. Two computers can simultaneously connect via the DSL and Ethernet port to share its high-speed Internet connection. You can connect to its Ethernet port regardless of the operating system you are using, or connect to its USB port to allow easy installation to a USB equipped computer running Windows 98SE, ME, 2K, XP, or Mac OS 9 and OS X.



Our Price \$94 **Save \$26**
WebCode..... DLK9977

D-Link TV Tuner with Remote Control (DUB-T210)

The D-Link DUB-T210 provides two convenient functions for PC users. It connects your analog camera, camcorder and VCR to your PC to convert analog to digital image/sound for editing, and it connects to your PC to your cable TV line to let you view TV programs on your computer screen and save these programs in digital AVI or compressed MPEG formats on your hard disk or CD ROMs.



Our Price \$152 **Save \$41**
WebCode..... DLK249

D-Link 54Mbps Wireless USB Key (DWL-G122)

A high-performance 802.11g wireless LAN USB adapter that connects your computer to a high-speed wireless LAN. This adapter simply plugs to your computer through a fast USB 2.0 interface to provide up to 54Mbps wireless speed. This adapter is an ideal solution for notebook and laptop PC users needing a fast and standard mobile network connection.



DWL-122 11Mbps
Our Price \$63 **Save \$17**
WebCode..... DLK0396

DWL-G122 54Mbps
Our Price \$75 **Save \$15**
WebCode..... DLK1153

D-Link 8-Port 10/100Mbps Switch (DES-1008D)

D-Link DES-1008D is an unmanaged 10/100Mbps switch designed to enhance small workgroup performance while providing a high level of flexibility. Plug any port to either a 10Mbps or 100Mbps network to multiply bandwidths, boost response time and satisfy heavy load demands. 8-port 10/100Mbps Auto-sensing.



Our Price \$63 **Save \$17**
WebCode..... DLK0405

Logitech Quickcam Express

Now you can meet face-to-face online with live video calls. Or make your instant messages come alive by adding live video to your MS Messenger or Yahoo! Instant Messenger. Or set up a webcam to show your world. Or snap and send photos and video along with your e-mail as easily as you send text.



Our Price \$45 **Save \$25**
WebCode..... LOG3412

Logitech USB Microphone

No drivers to download and no setup required. Just plug-and-play, and that's what you get from the Logitech USB Desktop Microphone. You also get true digital quality and a noise-cancelling technology to filter out unwanted background noise and deliver better voice recognition, better voice command, better voice recording, and more.



Our Price \$30 **Save \$20**
WebCode..... LOG3386

Connectland Mini 2.1CH USB Speakers

The Connectland Mini 2.1CH USB Speakers is an innovative way to boost the sound and multimedia capabilities of your notebook. Compact Design - a compact speaker system that you can easily carry along with your laptop. High Quality Sound - newly developed built-in class D, 1 bit digital amplifier outputs clear digital sound.



Our Price \$49 **Save \$45**
WebCode..... CLD0001

**Avision AV210
A4 Doc Scanner
with ADF**

The new Avision AV210 scanner is designed to occupy minimum desk space and features 20 ppm scanning, USB 2.0 interface and 48 bit colour which is exceptional considering their high scanning speed and modest price.



Our Price \$729 **Save \$40**
WebCode PR50007

**Avision 8000s
Flatbed A3
Scanner**

The AV8000s comes as a flatbed scanner with or without an automatic document feeder. With the document feeder attached, the AV8000s is capable of scanning up to 35 pages per minute and is able to hold up to 50 pages at once. To make scanning even more effortless, the AV8000s comes packaged with a SCSI interface kit, TWAIN drivers and a comprehensive software collection for Windows.



Our Price \$2345 **Save \$150**
WebCode AV10006

**Digimemo
Digital Notepad**

The Digimemo A501 is the world's first and only stand-alone device with storage capabilities that digitally captures and stores everything you write or draw with ink on ordinary paper, without the use of computers and special papers. Then, you can view, organize and share (e-mail) your handwriting notes in Windows.



Our Price \$159 **Save \$10**
WebCode ANY0056

**Linksys Wireless-G
Broadband Router (WRT54G)**

- All-in-one Internet-sharing Router, 4-port Switch, and Wireless-G Access Point
- Wireless data rates up to 54Mbps – 5 times faster than Wireless-B (802.11b)
- Shares a single Internet connection and other resources with Ethernet, wireless-G, -B, and other 802.11b devices
- Also interoperates with Wireless-B clients
- Built-in Wireless-G (802.11g) Access Point also lets you connect without running wires



Our Price \$128 **Save \$31**
WebCode LNK0009

**Linksys Wireless-G ADSL
Gateway (WAG54G)**

- High-speed ADSL Modem gives you a fast, "Always On" connection to the Internet
- Connect your PCs via the built-in Router and 4-port Switch to jump start your Ethernet network and share the Internet throughout your household
- Built-in Wireless-G (802.11g) Access Point also lets you connect without running wires



Our Price \$202 **Save \$47**
WebCode LNK0075

**Linksys ADSL Modem
(ADSL2+ME)**

- High-speed ADSL modem gives you a fast, "always on" connection to the Internet
- Up to 12 Mbps download speeds, 200 times faster than dial-up analog modems
- Shares your existing telephone line to connect to the Internet, without tying up the phone
- Connects to your PC over 10/100 Ethernet or USB



Our Price \$97 **Save \$38**
WebCode LNK0244

Linksys ADSL Gateway (AG241)

- High-speed ADSL Modem gives you a fast, "Always On" connection to the Internet
- Connect your PCs via the built-in Router and 4-port Switch to jump start your Ethernet network and share the Internet throughout your household
- Advanced firewall and security features protect your PCs, your data, and your family
- Compatible with both ADSL1 or ADSL2 standards



Our Price \$142 **Save \$47**
WebCode LNK0241

**Linksys Wireless-G
Notebook Adapter (WPC54G)**

- High-speed Wireless-G (802.11g) networking for your notebook computer
- Data rates up to 54Mbps – 5 times faster than Wireless-B (802.11b)
- Also interoperates with Wireless-B networks at 11Mbps
- Advanced wireless security: Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA), and up to 256-bit encryption



Our Price \$78 **Save \$21**
WebCode LNK0008

**Linksys Wireless-G USB
Card (WUSB54G)**

- Connects your desktop or notebook to a wireless network at up to 54Mbps when used with a USB 2.0 port
- Easy, no-tools setup on any desktop or notebook computer with USB support
- Also compatible with Wireless-B networks at 11Mbps
- Wireless communications are protected by up to 128-bit data encryption



Our Price \$79 **Save \$20**
WebCode LNK0051

**Linksys Wireless G Range
Extender (WRE54G)**

- The easiest way to expand your wireless network's coverage
- Save on wiring costs – no wired connection to your network necessary
- Extend your wireless signal into hard-to-reach areas
- Compatible with both Wireless-G and Wireless-B networking clients



Our Price \$123 **Save \$42**
WebCode LNK0128

**Linksys Network Storage
Link (NSLU2)**

Connect a USB Hard Drive or Memory Stick to the new Linksys Network Storage Link and everyone with permission can access the drive. Share company data across the network, or use it at home for a central library of pictures or music! You can even access the drive from the Internet when you're away!



Our Price \$162 **Save \$37**
WebCode LNK0134

**Linksys Wireless-G SRX
Internet Sharing Router
(WRT54GX)**

- Internet-sharing Router, 4-port Switch, with built in speed and range enhanced Wireless-G (802.11g) Access Point
- Shares a single Internet connection and other resources with Ethernet, wireless-G, -B, and other 802.11b devices
- New SRX technology: the farther away, the more advantage – up to 8 times faster than standard Wireless-G (802.11g) SRX also increases range by up to 3 times and reduces dead spots in coverage area
- Interoperates with standard Wireless-G and Wireless-B networks



Our Price \$313 **Save \$66**
WebCode LNK0242

**Linksys Wireless-G SRX
Network Adaptor (WPC54GX)**

- High-speed Wireless-G networking for your notebook computer, now with SRX performance enhancement
- New SRX technology: the farther away, the more advantage – up to 8 times faster than standard Wireless-G (802.11g) SRX also increases range by up to 3 times and reduces dead spots in coverage area
- Interoperates with standard Wireless-G and Wireless-B networks



Our Price \$190 **Save \$39**
WebCode LNK0243

**EPSON****Canon****WACOM**

HP Scanner ScanJet 3770

Small but reliable, the HP Scanjet 3770 easily digitises photos, documents and other items with impressive detail and sharpness. Scanning at up to 1200 x 2400 hardware resolution and 48-bit colour, it gives you brilliant true-to-life images that can be easily optimised to produce high-quality photo prints.



Our Price \$223 **Save** \$51
WebCode..... HPS1915

Epson Perfection 2480 Photo Scanner

- Unattended two-sided, multi-page scanning with ADF
- Scan up to 8 ppm (4 ipm) and preview scan in about 7 seconds
- Resolution: 2400 dpi
- Colour depth: 48-bit
- USB 2.0 Connectivity



Our Price \$265 **Save** \$54
WebCode..... EP52480

HP Scanjet 5590 Digital Flatbed Scanner

- Unattended two-sided, multi-page scanning with ADF
- Scan up to 8 ppm (4 ipm) and preview scan in about 7 seconds
- Resolution: 2400 dpi
- Colour depth: 48-bit
- USB 2.0 Connectivity



Our Price \$895 **Save** \$204
WebCode..... HPS1910

Epson Perfection 4990 Photo Scanner

- High Optical Density of 4.0 - for incredibly accurate colour tone capture
- High Resolution - 4800 dpi resolution using Matrix CCD Micro Lens Technology
- Advanced Film Scanning
 - new wider scanning area moving carriage-type Transparency Unit (TPU)



Our Price \$784 **Save** \$162
WebCode..... EP54990

Wacom Graphire3 Digital Photographic Toolkit

The Graphire3 6x8 Digital Photographic Toolkit. The Digital Photographic Toolkit is specifically designed to meet the needs of Digital Photographers, by maximising the fun and ease of manipulating and sharing Digital Photos. The Graphire3 6x8 Digital Photographic Toolkit comes in a limited edition silver colour, with software which creates a Seamless Digital Photographic workflow.

Included Software

- Ulead Photo Explorer 8 SE Basic
- Adobe Photoshop Elements 2.0
- Photo Express 4 SE for Wacom
- Corel Painter Essentials 2



6x8 Silver
Our Price \$210 **Save** \$39
WebCode..... WAC0047

Canon Scanner CanoScan LIDE 20

- 600 x 1200 dpi optical resolution and 48-bit colour depth
- Simple to connect - one plug scanning with Canon's user-friendly interface allows one touch operation of common scanning tasks
- New PDF compatible function
- Advanced Z-Lid



Our Price \$88 **Save** \$11
WebCode..... CAN0083

Canon Scanner CanoScan 9950F

- 4800 dpi Hyper CCD IV sensor with 48-bit colour depth
- Scan up to 30 frames of 35mm filmstrip in a single pass, 12 x 35mm slides, medium and up to 5 x 4" large format film.
- USB 2.0 Hi-Speed/ FireWire (IEEE1394) dual interface
- Advanced dust, scratch, fading, graininess and back-light correction technology (FARE Level 3) for film scanning



Our Price \$704 **Save** \$95
WebCode..... CAM0136

Wacom PenPartner

The pen tablet perfect for Microsoft Office applications. Make notes and insert signatures, annotate your PowerPoint presentations, use handwriting recognition features and much more. Includes JustWrite Office for easy document mark-up and annotation.



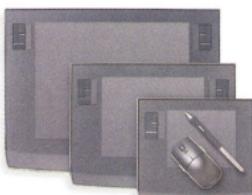
Our Price \$55 **Save** \$25
WebCode..... WAC0103

Wacom Intuos3

The Intuos3 extends the functionality of Wacom's pen tablets and introduces an exciting new look and innovative tablet features for improved workflow. The enhanced Intuos3 look-and-feel is improved by with new industrial design including an elegant transparent surface with a matte-finish active area, a new Grip Pen design, and a new two-position pen standholder.

Wacom's new Intuos3 Grip Pen is more comfortable to hold, and features 1024 levels of tip and eraser pressure, tilt, angle and direction, and two side buttons that act as modifier keys, keystrokes, or mouse buttons. As with all Intuos3 tools, the pen's functionality is completely customizable through Wacom's Control Panel software.

Additional functionality is provided through new programmable buttons called ExpressKeys and an innovative, integrated Touch Strip. The ExpressKeys are four programmable keys designed to optimize workflow by providing quick access to commonly used modifiers, mouse clicks, keystrokes, and other time-saving operations.



4x5
Our Price \$308 **Save** \$41
WebCode..... WAC0430

6x8
Our Price \$484 **Save** \$65
WebCode..... WAC0630

8x12
Our Price \$605 **Save** \$144
WebCode..... WAC0930

Netgear (WPN824) RangeMax Wireless Router

Powered by 7 smart antennas which adapt on-the-fly to interference, eliminating dead spots and delivering up to 10x more wireless coverage and speed than basic 802.11g routers. RangeMax MIMO (Multi-In, Multi-Out) technology is 100% 802.11b/g compatible and provides legacy devices with up to 50% improvement in performance.



Our Price \$188 **Save** \$61
WebCode..... NTG7317

Netgear (WPN511) RangeMax Wireless PC Card

Use with the WPN824 Wireless Router for 100% coverage and speed of 802.11g. Because there are no more dead spots, you can place your desktop PC anywhere in your home without the need for repeaters or boosters. Keep your network secure with included WEP and WPA security settings.



Our Price \$112 **Save** \$37
WebCode..... NTG7327

Netgear (WPN311) RangeMax Wireless PCI Adapter

Use with the WPN824 Wireless Router for 100% coverage and speed of 802.11g. Because there are no more dead spots, you can place your desktop PC anywhere in your home without the need for repeaters or boosters. Keep your network secure with included WEP and WPA security settings.



Our Price \$111 **Save** \$38
WebCode..... NTG7316

Input Devices

RENT SMART
Because buying isn't

SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

Netcomm USB Ethernet Mini Print Server

The NPS645 USB Ethernet Mini Print Server is a stand-alone print server that connects direct to a USB printer for efficient print sharing. It supports most standard printers including laser, colour and bubble-jet and offers a USB port, which connects direct to the printer, an Ethernet port to connect to the network.



Our Price \$147 Save \$18
WebCode.....NET9312

Plantronics Stereo PC Headset with Microphone.

This headset is equipped with controls for volume, balance and mute controls and a quickadjust microphone boom for correct placement. Noise cancelling microphone has superior speech recognition for internet chat/telephony and video conferencing.



Our Price \$49 Save \$17
WebCode.....PT15001

Check out our huge range of ink and toner cartridges on page 29!



CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Call 1300 658 600 or visit: www.e-store.com.au as prices may change due to the daily fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated on the RRP.

Fuji Xerox DocuPrint C525 A

A4 Colour Laser Printer

- Black Print Speed 25ppm
- Colour Print Speed 5ppm
- First Page Out 9 Sec Black 17 Sec Colour
- Memory Size 64MB
- Max Duty Cycle 45,000 ppm
- Resolution Up to 600 x 600 dpi
- Image enhancement
- Paper capacity 250 sheets Std / 950 Max



Our Price \$672 Save \$125
WebCode.....FXP5250

Fuji Xerox DocuPrint C2428

A3 Colour Office Printer

- 24 ppm in colour or black and white.
- First page out in 12 seconds.
- True 1200 x 1200 dpi resolution at full rated speed.
- A 350MHz Power PC 603e processor, 32 bits/65MHz PCI bus and 128MB RAM as standard.
- 10/100baseT network support.



Our Price \$4811 Save \$903
WebCode.....FXP2428

Konica Minolta Magicolor® 2430DL

Imagine a compact colour laser printer that everyone can share! Whole workgroups can benefit from cost effective colour printing with the magicolor 2430DL. It is exceptionally easy to use and integrates direct photo print for fast and easy printout of pictures. With revolutionary engineering and stylish design, the magicolor 2430DL is a welcome addition to any networking environment.

- Memory: 32 MB RAM
- Warm-up time: 49 seconds
- Print Speed: 5 ppm colour (A4/letter), 20 ppm monochrome (A4/letter)
- Print Quality: Superior resolution 2400 x 600 dpi, High quality Polymerised toner
- Standard Interfaces: Ethernet 10/100 BaseTX & USB 2.0, Supporting Microsoft 'Plug and Play'
- Paper size and input: Standard 200-sheet multipurpose feeder
- Operating System Compatibility: Windows 98SE/ME/2000/XP, MAC, LINUX
- Warranty: 2 years on-site warranty
- Direct Photo Print: Print photographs without a PC



Our Price \$1200 Save \$224
WebCode.....FXP0240

Konica Minolta PagePro 1300W

The PagePro 1300W is compact reliable and fast and ideal for both the home and the office.

The PagePro 1300W prints 16ppm, and at approx 2cents per page it is also value for money.

- Paper size A4
- Print speed 16 ppm
- Paper input 150 sheets
- Paper output 100 sheets
- Print resolution 1200x1200dpi
- Memory 8 MB std
- Standard Parallel and USB
- Warranty: 3 year replacement, including drum.



Our Price \$224 Save \$25
WebCode.....QMS1300

1300 658 600

Fuji Xerox DocuPrint 240A

A4 Black & white Office Printer

- 24 ppm, first page out in 10 seconds.
- Full engine speeds at true 1200 x 1200 dpi resolution.
- A 266MHz RISC
- PowerPC603e processor and 64MB standard memory
- 10/100baseT network support as standard.
- 75,000 maximum monthly duty cycle.



Our Price \$1200 Save \$224
WebCode.....FXP0240

Fuji Xerox DocuPrint C2535 A

Colour Laser Printer

- Black Print Speed 35ppm
- Colour Print Speed 25ppm
- Memory Size 128MB upgradeable to 640MB
- Max Duty Cycle up to 90,000ppm
- Resolution Up to 1200 x 1200 dpi
- Paper capacity 700 sheets Std / 2350 Max

NEW



Our Price \$2959 Save \$556
WebCode.....FXP2535

Fuji Xerox Phaser 5500 A3 Black & white Office Printer

- 50 ppm 1-sided, first page out time 3 seconds
- 500 MHz Phaser Controller and standard 128MB with the option of up to 512MB of memory.
- Up to 300,000 pages monthly duty cycle.
- Edge-to-edge printing, collating, N-up and booklet printing.
- Up to 1200 x 1200 dpi tabloid, 60 to 216 gsm
- Takes care of itself - Web based admin tools offer easy printer management.



Our Price \$4903 Save \$922
WebCode.....FXP500

Our Price \$7838 Save \$955
WebCode.....FXP7300



Our Price \$808 Save \$91
WebCode.....QMS2440

Konica Minolta Magicolor® 5440DL

The 5440DL has colour printing speeds faster than most monochrome printers and comes standard with networking capabilities

The 5440DL, as all Konica Minolta printers uses polymerized toner and most importantly is value for money!

- Up to 27 ppm colour & mono
- 64mb RAM, upgradeable
- Support for Windows, XP, MAC OS LINUX
- Standard input tray of 500 sheets

NEW



Our Price \$1871 Save \$463
WebCode.....QMS5440

Epson EPL-6200L

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 20ppm black
- 32MB RAM, Up to 128MB RAM
- 150 sheet tray, Optional 500 sheet tray
- Parallel/USB
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$347 **Save \$71**

WebCode: [EPL6203](#)

Epson Colour AL-C1100

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 25ppm black, 5ppm colour
- 32MB RAM, Up to 256MB RAM
- 180 sheet tray, Optional 500 sheet tray
- New EPSON AcuBrite toner
- Parallel/USB
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$711 **Save \$147**

WebCode: [EPL1101](#)

Epson Colour AL-C1100N

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 25ppm black, 5ppm colour
- 32MB RAM, Up to 256MB RAM
- 180 sheet tray, Optional 500 sheet tray
- New EPSON AcuBrite toner
- Parallel/USB
- Networkable
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$800 **Save \$179**

WebCode: [EPL1113](#)

Lexmark E230 Mono Laser Printer

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 17ppm black
- 8MB RAM
- 250 sheet tray
- Parallel & USB 2.0
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$176 **Save \$131**

WebCode: [LEX9230](#)

Epson Colour AL-C3000N

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 24ppm colour & monochrome
- 64MB RAM
- 133 MHz
- 100 sheet multi-purpose tray
- USB (2.0 compatible) / Ethernet
- Networkable
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$1914 **Save \$396**

WebCode: [EPL0300](#)

Epson EPL-N3000

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 24ppm black
- 64MB RAM
- 150 sheet multi-purpose tray
- Parallel/USB
- Networkable
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$2086 **Save \$433**

WebCode: [EPL3006](#)

Epson Colour AL-C4100

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 24ppm Monochrome & Colour
- 64MB RAM
- 400 MHz RISC + dedicated ASIC
- 100 sheet multi-purpose tray
- Parallel/USB
- Win/Mac

400 MHz RISC processor with dedicated ASIC processor.



Our Price \$3090 **Save \$639**

WebCode: [EPL4103](#)

HP LaserJet 1015

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 16ppm black
- 16MB RAM
- 150 sheet tray
- Parallel/USB
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$377 **Save \$88**

WebCode: [HPL2462](#)

HP LaserJet 1320

- Prints up to 22 ppm
- 1200 x 1200 dpi resolution
- 16MB expandable to 144MB
- Input tray - 250 sheets
- Up to 10,000 pages per month duty cycle
- 1 USB 2.0 port



Our Price \$673 **Save \$162**

WebCode: [HPL5927](#)

HP Colour LaserJet 2550N

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 12ppm black, 4ppm colour
- 64MB RAM
- Up to 875 sheet input
- Ethernet ready
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$1370 **Save \$334**

WebCode: [HPL3704](#)

HP LaserJet 4250

- 1200 x 1200 dpi
- 45 ppm black
- 48MB RAM
- 600 Sheet Input
- Parallel/USB
- Ethernet Optional
- Win/Mac

HP 4250DTN
(HPL5403) \$3217



Our Price \$1652 **Save \$382**

WebCode: [HPL5400](#)

HP Colour LaserJet 3700

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 16ppm black & colour
- 64MB RAM
- Up to 350 sheet input
- Parallel/USB
- Win/Mac

HP 3700DN
(HPL1323) \$3586



Our Price \$2575 **Save \$604**

WebCode: [HPL1321](#)

HP Colour LaserJet 5500DN

- 600 x 600 dpi
- 27ppm Black & Colour
- 160MB Memory
- 600 Sheet Input
- A3 Printing Capacity
- Win & Mac



Our Price \$7273 **Save \$1681**

WebCode: [HPL3715](#)

Lexmark C510 Colour Laser Printer

- Print Speed: 30 PPM in Black and 8 PPM in Color
- Resolution: 2400 x 2400 DPI (Dots Per Inch)
- Paper Handling: Total Capacity: 725 sheet, Max Capacity: 780 sheets
- Memory: 128 MB RAM (Expandable to 320 MB RAM)
- Connectivity: USB, Fast Ethernet (10/100 Base T)
- Environments: Microsoft Windows, Apple Mac OS X, Unix, Linux



Our Price \$681 **Save \$308**

WebCode: [LEX9510](#)

Lexmark T430 Mono Laser Printer

- 1200 x 1200 dpi
- 30ppm black
- 32MB RAM
- 250 sheet tray
- Parallel & USB 2.0
- Win/Mac



Our Price \$1014 **Save \$184**

WebCode: [LEX1430](#)

HP Papers

- A4 Everyday Photo
Semi Gloss 170gsm
100 Sheets (HPD2511) \$19

Canon Papers

- A4 High Resolution 110gsm
50 Sheets (CAN0068) \$13
- 200 Sheets (CAN0080) \$33

A3 High Resolution 110gsm

- 20 Sheets (CAN0113) \$10

- 100 Sheets (CAN0112) \$42

Kodak Papers

- 4" x 6" Picture Paper
20 Sheets (KOD4822) \$10

- 4" x 6" Premium Picture Paper
75 Sheets (KOD6004) \$22

A4 Everyday Picture

- Paper 155gsm
20 Sheets (KOD6695) \$10
- 100 Sheets (KOD3293) \$35

A4 Picture Paper Glossy 190gsm

- 25 Sheets (KOD5448) \$15
- 75 Sheets (KOD5449) \$33

A4 Premium Picture

- Paper Glossy 220gsm
50 Sheets (KOD5283) \$33

A4 Premium Picture

- Paper Satin 220gsm
15 Sheets (KOD5743) \$15
- 50 Sheets (KOD5679) \$33

Epson Papers

- Photo Quality Inkjet Paper

- 100 Sheets

- A4 (EPAQ516) \$27

- A3 (EPAQ531) \$64

- A3+ (MBQ40) \$79

• Matte Heavyweight Paper

- 50 Sheets

- A4 (EPAH125B) \$27

- A3 (EP5003) \$65

- A3+ (EPAH126B) \$83

• Photo Glossy Paper

- 20 Sheets

- A4 (ISVME5373) \$20

- A3 (EP5058) \$64

- A2 (EP5046) \$105

• Premium Photo Glossy Paper

- 50 Sheets 4" x 6" (PA1729) \$16

- A3 (EP5005) \$78

- A3+ (EP5004) \$116


HP Photosmart 375

Experience the freedom of portable photo printing and printing. Thanks to its integrated multi-slot memory card reader and colour graphic display, it's easy to print directly from your camera's memory card - just slot, edit and print. You can add fun borders to a favourite photo or even print video clips. And thanks to its ultra-compact design and optional battery pack, taking the printer everywhere is easy. Simply the ideal photo printer for all your photo printing needs.

- True-to-life 4R photos
- Print photos on-the-go
- 2.5" colour graphical display - Select and edit photos with the large LCD screen. Adjustable for tilt-angle, this screen remains crisp and clear from any angle.
- Multi-slot memory card reader - Supports CompactFlash™ Type I and II, SmartMedia™, Memory Stick®, Secure Digital™, MultiMediaCard™ and xD-Picture Card™.
- On-printer editing functions
- Video action printing
- PictBridge® compatibility
- Page layout button



Our Price \$347 **Save \$79**

WebCode..... HPP3419

HP PSC 1610 All In One Printer

With an integrated multi-slot memory card reader and PictBridge compatibility, you can now print photos directly from your all-in-one.

- Print
- Up to 4800-optimised dpi colour
- HP PhotoREt 3 Colour Layering Technology
- HP PhotoREt 4 Colour Layering Technology (with optional 5-ink colour printing)
- Up to 1200-rendered dpi black when printing from a computer
- Print method: HP Thermal Inkjet printing
- Language: HP PCL Level 3 Enhanced
- Duty cycle: Up to 3000 pages per month
- Scan
- Up to 1200 x 4800 dpi optical resolution (Up to 19200 dpi enhanced)
- Up to 48-bit colour
- Flashed
- Copy
- Copy Black copy speed: 3 Up to 23 cpm
- Colour copy speed: 3 Up to 18 cpm
- Colour copy resolution: Up to 1200 x 4800 dpi
- Reduction/enlargement: 50-400%
- Maximum copies: Up to 50 copies
- Copier settings: Stand-alone copying



Our Price \$182 **Save \$17**

WebCode..... HP5587

HP OfficeJet 7210

The HP OfficeJet 7210 all-in-one is designed to deliver professional-quality results and fast performance. Its networking capability allows high performance tools to be shared across up to 5 computers.

- Print
- Up to 4800-optimised dpi colour
- Up to 1200-rendered dpi black
- Duty cycle: Up to 5000 pages per month
- Scan: Up to 30ppm Up to 9.8ppm Up to 2.1ppm
- Fax
- 33.6 Kbps fax modem
- Up to 3 seconds/page at 33.6 Kbps/4; 110 speed dial; 130-page memory
- Fax features include: Auto fax reduction, auto redialing, speed dialling, PC fax send, optional two-sided faxing
- Scan
- Up to 2400 x 4800 dpi hardware resolution
- Up to 48-bit colour
- Flashed with duplex Automatic Document Feeder
- Copy
- Copy Black copy speed: 3 Up to 30 cpm
- Colour copy speed: 3 Up to 20 cpm
- Colour copy resolution: Up to 4800 x 1200 dpi



Our Price \$550 **Save \$109**

WebCode..... HPS5575

Visit www.csw.com.au to view our full range of Printers!

Lexmark X6170

Colour Printing: Up to 4800 x 1200 dpi on all paper types. Up to 19 ppm black; up to 15 ppm colour.

Colour Scanning: It offers an effective scan area of 8.5" x 11.7". This high-resolution scanner captures the finest detail, with up to 1200 x 4800 dpi optical resolution (up to 19,200 enhanced) and 48-bit colour scan/16-bit grayscale.

Colour Copying: Reduction/enlargement capability from 25% to 400%. - 19 copies at one time. The Lexmark X6170 produces up to 16 ppm black and up to 11 cpm colour.

Colour Faxing: 33.6 Kbps fax capability. Automatic document feeder lets you fax multiple page documents.

Accu-Feed: Paper handling system virtually eliminates paper jams.

Bundled software: ABBYY FineReader 5.0 Sprint Plus Optical Character Recognition - FineReader converts scanned paper documents into editable computer files.



Our Price \$255 **Save \$44**

WebCode..... LEX6170

Lexmark P6250

Print, Copy, Scan, reduce and enlarge photos and documents. Share your scanned photos by email or easily print them. A 2.5" (63.5mm) colour screen and 4" x 6" colour scan guides make placement and previewing of photos easy.

Brilliant 6-colour 35mm colour photos. Borderless photos in sizes A4, A5, A6, Letter, Hayes, 3.5" x 5", 4" x 6", 5" x 7", L and 2L up to 4800 dpi on Photo paper; 6-colour 4" x 6" photos as fast as 38 seconds when printing in QuickPrint™ mode and excluding PC processing time.

Quickly print photos without a PC using the PictBridge digital camera interface or your digital camera memory card.

Supports PictBridge™ Type I & II, Memory Stick, Memory Stick Pro, Memory Stick Duo with adapter, Multi Media, Secure Digital, SmartMedia, Microdrive and xD cards.

Prints up to 15 ppm colour and up to 22 ppm black with the optional Lexmark black cartridge. Accu-Feed: Paper handling system virtually eliminates paper jams.



Our Price \$329 **Save \$70**

WebCode..... LEX6250

Lexmark X7170

With the Lexmark Productivity Suite, you can manage, organise and search documents with ease; scan and edit documents or printed material (using included ABBYY FineReader Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Software); and easily convert documents to PDFs.

Print fast with up to 22 ppm black & white and up to 15 ppm colour printing; with high quality printing up to 4800 dpi on photo paper.

Distribute multi-page faxes and emails; fax quickly with 1-touch hot buttons and 33.6 Kbps

Enable easy sending of electronic documents with three line LCD. Up to 100 page memory, 79 speed dial and 200 address book capability. Quick dial buttons on the operator panel, Auto redial, Busy redial, Caller ID and distinctive ring detection (where available). Fax forwarding and print, Confirmation, error and activity reports, Broadcast and delayed transmission, Junk fax block (where available). Integrated print to fax function, Auto answering.



Our Price \$337 **Save \$62**

WebCode..... LEX7170

Epson Multi-Function Machine Stylus Photo RX430

With its high quality photo printing, scanning and copying features, the EPSON STYLUS PHOTO RX430 is an incredibly cost effective and space efficient tool for today's photo enthusiasts. It's designed to take full advantage of the wide range of Genuine EPSON Photo Papers; users will be able to enjoy printing economical, professional photos. The EPSON STYLUS PHOTO RX430 is a compact and wallet friendly feature in one compact space saving unit. Not only do you receive a high quality scanner, Photocopier and fast printer in one unit, but you also get a high quality photo-printing centre.

- Integrated Memory Card Slots
- Up to 15ppm in black and colour text
- BorderFree printing up to A4
- 4 Individual Ink Cartridges
- Flattened colour image scanner
- Pixel Depth 48bit
- 1200 x 2400 Optical dpi
- Fast Mono and Colour copying
- USB 1.1 interface



Our Price **\$219** Save **\$40**
WebCode: EP0430

Epson Multifunction Machine Stylus Photo RX510

The RX510's superb print quality is made possible by use of Epson's proprietary MicroPiezo and Variable Sized Droplet Technologies. A print resolution of 5760 x 1440 Optimised dpi (using Resolution Performance Management) and a scanning resolution of 2400 x 4800dpi, the RX510 is able to reproduce the finest details of all your photos.

- Printing - colour printing at resolutions up to 5760 Optimised and up to 17ppm in black text
- Print BorderFree edge-to-edge 100 mm x 150mm & A4 prints.
- Scanning - 48-bit colour depth scanning with optical resolution of 2400 x 4800dpi. Full A4-size (216 x 297 mm) size capability.
- Faxing - Using your existing PC and modem, take full advantage of your existing fax software



Our Price **\$364** Save **\$65**
WebCode: EP0510

Epson Multi-Function Machine Stylus Photo RX630

Epson's Stylus Photo RX630 is the Multi Function Machine with outstanding photo printing, scanning and faxing.

Underpinning the EPSON STYLUS PHOTO RX630's outstanding photo printing is its 5760 x 1440 Optimised DPI using Resolution Performance Management Technology. With the in-built 2.4 inch LCD preview monitor and easy-to-use control panel, scanned and memory card-stored images can be previewed, cropped and printed without connection to a PC.

- 5760 Optimised DPI
- Up to 17ppm* for black text, and up to 16ppm* for colour text
- BorderFree printing up to A4
- High Quality film and slide scanning
- 48-bit Micro Piezo Colour copies
- Copy photo with restoration
- 2.4" High Resolution LCD Viewer Screen
- USB 2.0 hi-speed
- Optional Bluetooth adaptor available



Our Price **\$515** Save **\$7.50**
WebCode: EP0630

Comsol USB Cables

- Comsol 2 mtr USB 2.0 Peripheral cable type A male-B male - 480Mbps (COMB930) **\$11**
- Comsol 3 mtr USB 2.0 Peripheral cable type A male-B male - 480Mbps (COMB935) **\$14.30**
- Comsol 5 mtr USB 2.0 Peripheral cable type A male-B male - 480Mbps (COMB940) **\$19.80**



Comsol Firewire Cables

- Comsol 2mtr IEEE1394 FireWire Cable - 4 pin to 4 pin (COM6105) **\$17**
- Comsol 4.5mtr IEEE1394 FireWire Cable - 4 pin to 4 pin (COM6110) **\$24**
- Comsol 2mtr IEEE1394 FireWire Cable - 6 pin to 4 pin (COMB120) **\$16**
- Comsol 4.5mtr IEEE1394 FireWire Cable - 6 pin to 4 pin (COMB125) **\$23**
- Comsol 2mtr IEEE1394 FireWire Cable - 6 pin to 6 pin (COMB130) **\$18**
- Comsol 4.5mtr IEEE1394 FireWire Cable - 6 pin to 6 pin (COMB135) **\$25**



Image used for illustration purposes only.

Visit www.csw.com.au to view our full range of Printers!

Canon Pixma MP110 All In One Printer

The PIXMA MP110 combines an extremely fast 4800 x 1200 dpi printer, stand-alone copier and precise scanner, all-in-one stylish body. The MP110 also features borderless, full-bleed printing and copying on A4, 5" x 7" and 6" x 4" paper.

- Quality print, copy, scan made simple
- 2 picolitre FINE print-head technology results in sharp and enhanced detail for superb images
- Produce high-definition photos and documents at up to 4800 x 1200 dpi
- Print up to 15 ppm black and 13 ppm colour
- Copy at up to 16 ppm black and 10 ppm colour
- Scan high-definition photos at up to 1200 x 2400 dpi (9600 dpi optimised)
- Feature the Advanced Z-Lid for convenient scanning and copying of thick documents
- Create true borderless 6" x 4", 5" x 7" and A4 size photos
- Comes with loads of software including Easy-PhotoPrint, Easy-WebPrint5, ArcSoft PhotoStudio and ScanSoft OmniPage SE



Our Price **\$143** Save **\$16**
WebCode: CAN0385

Canon Pixma IP3000 Colour Inkjet Printer

The PIXMA iP3000 Photo printer is the all-round, affordable home or office home office printing solution. It is capable of handling a variety of printing needs from fast document printing at up to 22 ppm black and 15 ppm colour to high quality, borderless photo prints.

- High quality photo printing and advanced paper handling
- 2 picolitre FINE (Full-photolithography Inkjet Nozzle Engineering) Technology
- Dual paper path (ASF & front cassette)
- Built-in automatic duplexing for double sided printing
- PickBridge and Bubble Jet Direct compatible - digital camera printing
- Up to 4800 x 1200 dpi printing resolution
- Prints true borderless photos up to A4
- Prints directly onto printable CD and DVD
- Cost saving 4 individual ink tanks



Our Price **\$220** Save **\$29**
WebCode: CAN0313

Canon Pixma MP780 All In One Printer

- High performance printer, copier, scanner & fax.
- 2 picolitre FINE (Full-photolithography Inkjet Nozzle Engineering) print-head
- Technology and up to 4800 x 1200 dpi printing
- Print and copy up to 25 ppm black and 17 ppm colour
- Scan up to 2400 x 4800 dpi (9600 dpi optimised)
- Convenient 35 page Auto Document Feeder (ADF)
- 2-sided paper path with Auto Sheet Feeder (ASF) and front cassette
- Built-in automatic duplex unit for convenient double-sided printing
- PickBridge and Bubble Jet Direct compatible
- Prints directly onto printable CDs & DVDs
- Super G3 (33.6 Kbps modem) up to 3 seconds per page faxing
- Easy-to-use display and operation panel
- ContrastPLUS 5-colour individual ink system



Our Price **\$517** Save **\$82**
WebCode: CAN0362

Microsoft Wireless Notebook Optical Mouse

- Snap-in receiver cuts the battery when not in use
- Optical technology for precision and speed
- Scroll Wheel to move through documents quickly
- Designed for comfort for either hand
- Longer battery life



Blue
Our Price \$61
Save \$8
WebCode MST8354

Steel
Our Price \$61
Save \$8
WebCode MST8353

Microsoft Standard Wireless Optical Mouse

- Long Battery Life - Many users average more than six months battery life
- 3 Button mouse
- Optical Technology for speed and precision
- Designed for comfort for either hand
- USB/PS2



Black
Our Price \$39
Save \$10
WebCode MST18342

White
Our Price \$39
Save \$10
WebCode MST8341

Microsoft Optical Desktop with Fingerprint Reader

- Fingerprint Reader for Convenient Password Replacement
- Optical Mouse with Tilt Wheel Technology
- Longer Mouse Battery Life
- Multimedia Centre - Control your media activities with the touch of a button



Our Price \$152
Save \$48
WebCode MST8351

Microsoft Wireless Optical Desktop Comfort Edition

Features a new Curve Design which provides enhanced comfort and control. The Zoom Slider allows you to zoom in and out of images on-screen. Gain instant access to your favourite Web sites and files with the keyboard "My Favourites" Keys. The wireless optical mouse has a longer battery life, as well as Tilt Wheel Technology for side-to-side and down scrolling.



Our Price \$115
Save \$35
WebCode MST8340

SanDisk Cruzer Micro

SanDisk Cruzer Micro is a small USB Flash Drive that connects to a computer's USB port. Users can easily store their key documents, pictures, music and videoclips on a Cruzer Micro and transfer them to another computer with a USB port.

Micro Cruzer
512MB (SIM0688) \$75
1GB (SIM0436) \$143
2GB (SIM0434) \$266



Mini Cruzer
256MB (SIM0381) \$49
512MB (SIM0386) \$75
1GB (SIM0391) \$136

256MB
Our Price \$45
Save \$19
WebCode SIM0121

SanDisk Titanium 512MB

The 512MB Cruzer Titanium is designed to meet the needs of business and power users who place a premium on high durability and fast data transfers. SanDisk Cruzer Titanium is perfect for storing and transporting documents, pictures, presentations and music - anytime, anywhere, and under any conditions.

1GB (SIM0151) \$176
2GB (SIM0150) \$363



Our Price \$99
Save \$47
WebCode SIM0393

SanDisk 256MB Digital Audio Player

The new Digital Audio Players combine crystal-clear sound with a sleek design and sport a three-button/line-joystick design and easy-to-navigate user interface. They feature MP3, Windows Media® file and Windows Media®-based DRM file playback, FM radio and voice recording. Doubles as a USB data storage device.

Blue 128MB
(SIM0158) \$189



Silver 1GB
(SIM0157) \$249

Our Price \$129
Save \$20
WebCode SIM0159

SanDisk ImageMate 5-in-1 Card Reader/Writer

Transfer all your pictures with the touch of a button. ImageMate offers super-fast single slot card reading for a variety of popular flash memory cards. Available for all standard card formats.

Compact Flash Reader/Writer
(SAN0016) \$30



ImageMate 2-in-1 Reader/Writer
(SIM0160) \$55

Our Price \$30
Save \$5
WebCode SAN0015

Microsoft Wireless Optical Mouse

Wireless Optical Mouse (Steel Blue) is a cut above the rest in wireless performance, comfort and style. This optical mouse is equipped with 3 buttons, a tilt wheel and a scroll wheel to guide you around any software programme with ease. Improved battery consumption technology for extended life.



Our Price \$55
Save \$15
WebCode MST8289

Microsoft Wireless Desktop 1000

- Wireless Freedom - No cords
- Optical technology for Precision Accuracy and Speed
- Enhanced F Keys - Perform common commands from your keyboard
- Customizable Hot Keys - Get one-touch access to the programs and files you use most



Our Price \$70
Save \$20
WebCode MST8356

Logitech Precision PC Gaming Headset

For the gamer with attitude. Big 40mm neodymium stereo headphones give you the audio experience you've been looking for, and its noise canceling microphone delivers the voice quality you demand.



Our Price \$31
Save \$19
WebCode LOG3457

Logitech Cordless Desktop EX-1100

The Cordless Desktop EX 1100 mouse and keyboard are truly easy and affordable to go wireless in style. Quick, simple to set up, and completely reliable. Enjoy the freedom and precision of an 800-dpi optical mouse, plus one-touch controls that make music, Internet, and other frequent functions simpler. Superb quality and value.



SanDisk Sansa 1GB MP3 Player

High quality digital music playback with easy navigation and expandable memory at an affordable price. You can add up to 2GB of additional storage space with the SD slot. It also includes an FM tuner and superior sound with SRS WOW and high-quality, in-ear headphones.



Our Price \$299
Save \$50
WebCode SAN0018

SanDisk Photo Album with Remote

The SanDisk Photo Album now makes it simple, convenient and affordable to view, store and share your favorite digital photos, video clips and music on your TV. No computer is required! Family and friends no longer have to crowd around a computer or your camera's LCD screen to view photos.

Stores images permanently on Compact Flash - ask about our range of CF cards!



Our Price \$88
Save \$8
WebCode VME0005

Our Price \$55
Save \$33
WebCode LOG3507



Logitech Quickcam Sphere

QuickCam Orbit is designed to turn heads. The mechanical pan and tilt feature allows the webcam to turn side and side to get 180° of field of view, and tilt up and down 60°. Face-tracking software will automatically follow you to keep you in view. It even zooms in so you can clearly see the details. It's easy to add live video to all your IM sessions.



Our Price \$181
Save \$69
WebCode LOG3494

Comsol ServerLink Star 2 Port KVM

Control two PCs with a single keyboard, monitor & mouse. All ServerLink Star KVM switches have audio and microphone support for multimedia applications.

SL-271-P (COM0075) \$77

SL-271-U (COM0076) \$88



SL-271-C
Our Price \$79
Save \$6
WebCode COM0077

Comsol ServerLink Slim Desktop KVM

ServerLink Slim Desktop KVM The ServerLink Slim Desktop KVM Switch is designed to let you control two or four PS/2 style computers using one keyboard, monitor and mouse. With its slim size and ease of operation, it is an indispensable device for managing multiple PCs on your desktop or mobile desktop. Its compact and lightweight design fits comfortably anywhere on your desktop.

SL-281-P (COM0094) \$105



4 Port
Our Price \$175
Save \$24
WebCode COM0095

Comsol VGA Monitor Splitters

Simultaneously broadcast one VGA signal up to 8 different monitors can never be easier with Comsol's high-end video splitters. Comsol once again pushes the bandwidth to 350MHz for crisp clear video quality. Available with two, four and eight ports.

4 Port (COM9145) \$195

8 Port (COM9150) \$255



2 Port
Our Price \$107
Save \$18
WebCode COM9140

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Call 1300 658 600 for a worldwide price comparison. Prices may
not be available due to the day's fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

Comsol USB VoIP Phone

This fully-featured USB VoIP Phone allows you to talk to friends or colleagues just like a normal telephone. Used in conjunction with Skype or similar software, it offers you a complete free Internet telephony solution. The UVP-001 features simple plug-and-play installation, integrated LCD and keypad, echo cancellation and noise reduction.

- Talk to friends or colleagues just like a normal phone
- Provides a complete free Internet telephony solution
- SKYPE ready - talk for free with other Skype users
- Works with most leading VoIP providers
- Independent use of phone and sound card allows for VoIP call whilst listening to music
- Make huge savings on local, STD and international calls
- Ideal for the mobile traveller
- Easy to install USB plug-and-play technology
- Allows PC-to-PC and PC-to-phone operation
- LCD display, keypad and ringer
- 10 programmable ring tones for incoming calls
- Echo cancellation and noise reduction
- Caller ID function of VoIP calls

Our Price \$70
Save \$19
WebCode COM001



Comsol USB 2.0 flashIT2 Flash Drives

These pocket USB 2.0 flashIT2 Storage drives plug directly into any standard USB port and are compatible with both PC and Macs. They also feature password security control to prevent unauthorised access.

- Hi-Speed USB 2.0 Certified
- Password Security control
- True Plug and Play

128MB (COM0111) \$35
512MB (COM0107) \$93
1GB (COM1018) \$165
2GB (COM1019) \$342



256MB
Our Price \$57
Save \$8
WebCode COM0106

Comsol SD Card Reader plus MP3 Player

The SD-MP3 is a combined Hi-Speed USB 2.0 SD card reader and MP3 player. Just plug the SD-MP3 into the USB port of your PC or Mac, insert your SD storage card and transfer all your digital files by user friendly drag-and-drop. The built-in MP3 player allows you to listen to your favourite MP3 files, straight from your storage card, while on the move. The SD-MP3 comes complete with stereo earphones so now you can carry your digital files and music everywhere you go.

Storage card not included.



Our Price \$44
Save \$15
WebCode COM1013

Comsol USB Bluetooth Adapter

A quick and easy solution for users wanting to add Bluetooth capability to their computer. It plugs directly into your USB port and enables wireless connectivity with Bluetooth devices including mobile phones PDAs printers and other computers.

- Bluetooth v1.2 certified
- WIDCOMM "Bluetooth for Windows" connectivity software
- Full Speed Class 2 Bluetooth operation
- Ideal for mobile phones, PDAs, headsets, printers etc.
- Operation range up to 40m



Our Price \$57
Save \$12
WebCode COM0104

1300 658 600

Comsol USB 2.0 Card Reader 17 in 1

Exchanging data between your computer and Digital Camera, MP3, PDA etc, has never been so fast and convenient. Supporting almost all of the available storage cards including: SD, Mini SD, SD Ultra II, MMC 1, MMC 2, RSMMC, MicroDrive, CF I, CF II, CF-Ultra II, CF-Extreme, MS, MS Pro, MS Pro Duo, MS Pro (MG), MS Pro Duo (MG), TransFlash.

- Hi-Speed USB 2.0 Certified
- Transfer files by user friendly drag-and-drop
- Data can be exchanged between sockets
- Transfer speeds up to 480Mbps

Black (COM0502) \$35



Our Price \$35
Save \$14
WebCode COM102

Comsol 4 Port USB 2.0 Mini Hub

The UMH-402 Hi-Speed Mini Hub allows you to add 4 high-performance USB 2.0 peripherals to your notebook or portable computer. Designed for low powered devices, its ultra compact design makes it the perfect portable solution to extend your notebook's high-speed USB connectivity.

- Hi-Speed USB 2.0 Certified
- Ultra compact for portability
- Ideal for mobile notebook users
- Transfer speeds up to 480Mbps



Our Price \$30
Save \$5
WebCode COM105

Comsol USB 2.0 QuickLink Cable 5-in-1

The Comsol USB 2.0 5-in-1 QuickLink Cable ensures you will always have the right connection. Designed for the mobile traveller, the QuickLink cable provides you with 5 different USB cable configurations for all your USB peripherals.

- Detachable Connectors for added convenience
- Foil and Braid Shielding to reduce EMIRFI interference
- Includes connector carry case for convenient storage



Our Price \$28
Save \$2
WebCode COM0072

CITY
SOFTWARE

Belkin SurgeMaster

A power surge or lightning strike can destroy your electronic equipment in an instant. The SurgeMaster range offers the best protection for all your sensitive electronic devices in your home or office. No amount of thunder and lightning will ever be able to scare away your protection. Be safe and smart; choose a SurgeMaster with telephone/data line protection and if you want to protect your AV equipment with coaxial connection, choose the surge protector that protects both.

WebCode Product Description

BEL0244	Belkin Home Series Surge Cube	Price \$27	SAVE \$3
BEL0245	Belkin Home Series Surge Cube with Tel	Price \$35	SAVE \$5
BEL0247	Belkin Home Series 4-Way (2m Cord)	Price \$49	SAVE \$10
BEL0248	Belkin Home Series 4-Way (2m Cord) plus AV	Price \$66	SAVE \$13
BEL0250	Belkin Superior Series 6-Way (2m Cord) plus Tel	Price \$99	SAVE \$30
BEL0251	Belkin Superior Series 6-Way (2m Cord) plus Tel plus AV	Price \$115	SAVE \$34
BEL0253	Belkin Gold Series 7-Way (3m Cord) plus Tel plus AV plus RJ45	Price \$149	SAVE \$50
BEL0255	Belkin Gold Series 8-Way (2m Cord) plus Tel	Price \$129	SAVE \$30
BEL0256	Belkin Gold Series 8-Way (2m Cord) plus Tel plus AV	Price \$145	SAVE \$34

Price**SAVE****Belkin Wireless Rechargeable Mouse**

The rechargeable Wireless Optical Mouse from Belkin provides advanced wireless mouse functionality along with the convenience of recharging from the base. Designed for comfortable right or left handed use.

**Rechargeable**

Our Price	\$60	Save \$10
WebCode.....	BEL9997	

Belkin Hi-Speed USB 2.0 7-Port Hub

Belkin's Hi-Speed USB 2.0 7-Port Hub features two top-loading downstream USB ports. Now you can enjoy fast access for temporary device connections such as USB thumb drives, media readers and for USB lights, fans and other accessories. Monitoring your device activity is simpler than ever with LEDs for master power status and all port activity.



Our Price	\$64	Save \$15
WebCode.....	BEL0263	

Belkin Wireless Keyboard & Optical Mouse

Uses digital radio technology to give you the luxury of using your keyboard and mouse anywhere within six feet of the receiver. No more clutter to clutter your desktop. The source uses optical technology to deliver accurate signals from smooth, easy movements. Access the Internet and favorite applications using the seven multimedia keys and seven hot keys.



Our Price	\$55	Save \$5
WebCode.....	BEL0163	

HP Home Cinema Projector

- DLP technology
- Professional home cinema
- Flexible installation
- 840 ANSI lumens
- Native Resolution SVGA 800 x 600
- Scales up from VGA 640 x 480
- Scales down from XGA 1024 x 768
- Contrast ratio 1600:1
- Weight 5.7kg



Our Price \$2260 **Save \$468**
WebCode..... HPP1577

Sony DVD/VCR combo

The Irresistible SLVD985 VCR/DVD combination unit offers you all the features that you'd expect to find in DVD and VCR separate components. With DVD, DVD+RW/R, DVD-RW/R, JPEG, CD, SVCD, VCD, CD-R/RW and MP3 Playback, the SLVD985 combines convenience and advanced functionality for your viewing pleasure.



Our Price \$317 **Save \$32**
WebCode..... SNV0558

Belkin TuneBase FM for iPod Mini

TuneBase FM offers an elegant way to use your iPod mini on the road. While mounted, your iPod mini charges and wirelessly plays audio through your FM radio. It works from any cigarette-lighter outlet.

**NEW**

Our Price	\$122	Save \$8
WebCode.....	BEL0405	

Belkin Tunepower

The TunePower Rechargeable Battery Pack from Belkin keeps the music playing by letting you power your iPod even when your internal battery is drained.

Works with all iPods with dock connectors: Includes 3 sleeves for 10/15/20GB iPod, 30/40GB iPod, and iPod mini; Provides additional 8-10hrs battery life and includes firewire charging cable.

**NEW**

Our Price	\$1427	Save \$28
WebCode.....	BEL2808	

Belkin iPod Mini Silicon Rubber Sleeves 3 Pack

The Belkin silicon sleeves provide a great way to preserve your iPod. This value pack comes with 3 colours and a lanyard carrystrap.

Available for iPod nano, iPod shuffle and 4gb iPods.

**NEW**

Our Price	\$30	Save \$10
WebCode.....	BEL9996	

Built in FM Transmitter

Our Price	\$122	Save \$8
WebCode.....	BEL0405	

Belkin Complete Mobility Bundle

Belkin's Complete Mobility Bundle is designed to meet the needs of all mobile professionals. It represents a necessary addition to any notebook solution and includes the Belkin NE MC Notebook bag, minisRoller mouse and 4 port hub all in the one pack at a value price.

**HOT PRICE**

Our Price	\$65	Save \$24
WebCode.....	BEL2489	

Belkin USB Mobile Numeric Keypad

The Numeric Keypad from Belkin uses USB plug-and-play technology to offer notebook users the instant benefit of a 19-key, external numeric keypad in a compact format optimal for the mobile professional.

**NEW**

Our Price	\$35	Save \$5
WebCode.....	BEL0365	

Belkin Mini USB Glo Mouse with Retractable Cord

The MiniGlow Optical Mouse from Belkin provides a fun and compact input solution for the mobile user. It features attractive active-color-changing lights that glow brightly, day or night. Take it on the road easily and use it with optical precision on virtually any surface-anywhere you use your USB laptop.

**NEW**

Our Price	\$28	Save \$11
WebCode.....	BEL2826	

Sony 6.1 Channel Home Cinema in a Box

- Power Output: 120W x 6
- Dolby Pro Logic/ Pro Logic II
- DTS II
- Dolby Digital EX / DTS ES
- 5.1 Surround Sound decoding
- Multi band FM
- Programmed remote control for controlling other components
- Front/rear satellite speakers
- Centre satellite speaker
- Active subwoofer



Our Price	\$1099	Save \$100
WebCode.....	SNY0425	

Peripherals

RENTSMART
Because buying isn't

SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

**Thermaltake
Big Typhoon**

Compatible with Intel P4 LGA 775 & AMD K7, K8. 6 Heatpipes allow quick transfer of heat from base & High density aluminum fins provide more surface area for good heat dissipation



Our Price \$70 **Save** \$4
WebCode TTK0010

**Thermaltake
BigWater Liquid
Cooling System**

Universal 4 in 1 solution, compatible with Intel P4 socket 775, AMD K8, AMD K7. High performance radiator with VR fan. All copper waterblock with blue LED acrylic cover & universal clips. Powerful DC 12V water pump. Transparent green pipes to light up your case. High performance coolant to steady water quality & reduce anti-freezing and anti-rusting.



Our Price \$185 **Save** \$20
WebCode ANY0174

**i-Rocks USB
Keypad plus 2
Port Hub**

Compact and stylish USB numeric keypad. An ideal accessory for accountants, accountants who are tired of your cramped notebook keyboard. White, crystal like finish with a bonus - integrated 2 port USB hub to attach a keyboard and mouse. Lightweight for easy storage and portability in your notebook bag.



Our Price \$32 **Save** \$8
WebCode IR50014

**Thermaltake Super Tower
Aluminium Armor Case**

Supplied with new 430W Thermaltake power supply. Includes dual 12cm Blue LED fans in front. Stylish aluminium front bezel. 2 expansion slots, 3 drive bays, 9 drive bays for drives. Tool-free installation for 5.25" devices. Dual USB 2.0, IEEE 1394 Firewire, Audio & Speaker ports. Retractable foot stand.



Our Price \$299 **Save** \$40
WebCode TTK0011

**Plantronics Stereo
PC Headset**

Behind the Head Stereo PC Headset with Microphone. Listen to CDs, DVDs or MP3 music in awesome full range stereo sound. Equipped with convenient inline volume and mute controls and a quickadjust microphone boom that ensures correct placement for speech applications. Lightweight headset with superior speech recognition microphone.



Our Price \$49 **Save** \$10
WebCode ANY0039

i-Rocks Minip USB Mouse

A necessary notebook companion for every business traveller. Stylish design with precise accuracy of 800dpi resolution. Optical technology for functionality on many surfaces. Other features include Retractable cable for easy storage, adaptor for PS/2 or USB connection.



Black (IR50008) \$19
Red (IR50010) \$19
Silver (IR50011) \$19

Our Price \$19 **Save** \$10
WebCode IR50009

**i-Rocks MP3 CAR DJ
FM Transmitter**

By plugging in your USB flash drive or mp3 player (or any audio source with an audio output like your PDA or CD player) into the mp3 DJ and then tuning to the specified FM channel, you can immediately enjoy listening to your favourite digital music over your car stereo.



Our Price \$65 **Save** \$15
WebCode IR50020

**Thermaltake Mid Tower
Soprano Case**

Includes 400W Thermaltake power supply. High efficiency ventilation: Dual 12cm silent fan in front & rear, 9 drive bays for drives. Tool-free installation for 5.25" & 3.5" devices. Dual USB 2.0, IEEE 1394 Firewire, Audio & Speaker ports. Retractable foot stand.



Our Price \$176 **Save** \$33
WebCode TTK0005

**Plantronics USB Stereo
PC Headset**

Plantronics All-Purpose USB Stereo PC Headset with Microphone. Ultra-light weight, comfortable design. Perfect for all your multimedia needs. Listen to CDs, DVDs, or MP3s with digitally enhanced stereo sound. USB plug and play.



Our Price \$85 **Save** \$14
WebCode ANY0109

i-Rocks Aluminium USB 2.0 12-in-1 Card Reader

i-Rocks Aluminium USB 2.0 12-in-1 Card Reader with Blue LED - Silver. Supports CF I / CF II, Smart Media, MMC I / MMC II, SD, IBM Micro Drive, MStick, MStick Pro, MStick Duo*, MStick Pro Duo*, Mini SD*.

*Adapter Required .



Our Price \$35 **Save** \$10
WebCode IR50013

i-Rocks Hub/Reader Combo

Combination 3 Port USB 2.0 hub plus Memory Card Reader. Compact design for easy storage. Reads most memory card types and true plug and play hotswap swappable for easy use and store away. Fast transfer rates with USB 2.0 of 480Mbps. Supplied with Carry bag.



Our Price \$60 **Save** \$10
WebCode IRR0016

**Thermaltake Super Tower
Aluminium Kandalf Case**

Supplied with new 430W Thermaltake power supply. Aluminium front bezel, 7 expansion slots, 3 drive bays, 9 drive bays for drives. Tool-free installation for 5.25" drives. Relocatable front control panel (Power switch, Reset switch, HDD & Power LEDs). Screwless slots for easy assembly, 3 x 3.5" HDD Module with 12cm fan. Accessory box bundled in 5.25" drive bay. Retractable foot stand.



Our Price \$349 **Save** \$50
WebCode TTK0012

**Plantronics
Bluetooth Headset**

Perfect for the mobile professional. Wireless freedom and unparalleled versatility in the office and on the go. Simplify your communications with this extremely lightweight and versatile headset. Enjoy all-day wearing comfort, clear voice transmission and superior sound quality without wires! With the optional Deskphone Adapter, your headset can be used in the office or on the go.



Our Price \$105 **Save** \$44
WebCode ANY0188

**i-Rocks Brushed
Aluminium 4 Port USB
2.0 Hub**

i-Rocks Brushed Aluminium 4 Port USB 2.0 Hub with Blue LED. Includes power adapter. Small & compact. High speed transfer rate up to 480Mbps for each port - Silver.



Our Price \$32 **Save** \$7
WebCode IR50005

**i-Rocks 2.5" USB2.0
Aluminium HDD Enclosure**

i-Rocks 2.5" USB2.0 HDD Enclosure with aluminium alloy housing. Delivers 480 Mbps data transfer rate USB to IDE & 800Mbps IDE1394b to IDE. Includes power/access status LED indicator. Easy installation with screwless design.



Our Price \$33 **Save** \$17
WebCode IR50015

Sitecom NitroXM 140g+ Wireless Broadband Router

Transmission and Receiving station for wireless network-up to 64 wireless Notebooks and PCs can connect. Used to share an internet connection via wireless. Includes an inbuilt 4 port 10/100 switch and an extra PC's via network ports. Uses Sitecom Nitro XM 140g+ wireless standard-when used with other Sitecom 140g+ products speeds of 45Mbps or higher can be achieved



Our Price **\$140** Save **\$29**
WebCode: ANY0184

Sitecom NitroXM 140g+ Wireless USB Adapter

Allows you to connect your Notebook or Desktop PC to a Wireless Network via USB 2.0. Quick & Easy Installation. Share Photos, Music and Data wirelessly. Uses Sitecom Nitro XM 140g+ wireless standard.



Our Price **\$73** Save **\$16**
WebCode: ANY0185

Sitecom NitroXM 140g+ Wireless PCI Card

Allows you to connect your Desktop PC to a Wireless Network. Share Photos, Music and Data wirelessly. Uses Sitecom Nitro XM 140g+ wireless standard.



Our Price **\$60** Save **\$19**
WebCode: ANY0186

Sitecom USB 3.5" Floppy Drive

The Sitecom USB 3.5" Floppy Drive can be used on Windows 98SE or higher and Mac OS 8.6 and Mac OS 9.x and higher. The USB Floppy Drive can read, write and format 3.5" disks.



Our Price **\$73** Save **\$12**
WebCode: ANY0182

Sitecom USB 2.0 to VGA Adaptor

Easily connect an extra monitor to any computer with a USB port. Even if you are using a notebook, the USB 2.0 to VGA adaptor enables you to enjoy the convenience of an extra monitor via USB at any location.



Our Price **\$119** Save **\$40**
WebCode: ANY0088

Aten 2 Port KVM Switch

Utilize only 1 set of Keyboard, Monitor & Mouse to access multiple PCs or Servers. Ideal for technical workbenches for testing PCs, training on multiple OS or for multiple server admin and maintenance. CS-8284A/Desktop versions. PS/2 and VGA connections, cables supplied.

Aten 4 Port KVM Switch (ANY0135) **\$150**

Aten 8 Port KVM Switch- Rackmountable (ANY0136) **\$490**



Our Price **\$115** Save **\$5**
WebCode: ANY0134

Aten 2 Port Video Splitter 250MHz

Ideal solution for training or presentation scenarios where you need to display what's on your monitor onto a Projector or another monitor. Supports XGA, SVGA, VGA and multiSync monitors.

4 Port Video Splitter 250MHz (ANY0138) **\$77**

8 Port Video Splitter 200MHz (ANY0139) **\$99**



Our Price **\$55** Save **\$14**
WebCode: ANY0137

Compro VideoMate Hybrid Analog TV/Video & Digital TV Card

The First TV Tuner on the market that does both digital & analog.

- Full PC Power On/Off via remote.
- Full PC Power On/Off for scheduled recording.
- Low profile form factor.
- Windows Media Centre compatible.
- Picture Purifying technology for sharper pictures.
- Recommended by PC Authority- May 2005



DVB-T300
Our Price **\$149** Save **\$50**
WebCode: ANY0180

Sitecom NitroXM 140g+ Wireless PCI Card

Allows you to connect your Desktop PC to a Wireless Network. Share Photos, Music and Data wirelessly. Uses Sitecom Nitro XM 140g+ wireless standard.

Sitecom NitroXM 140g+ Wireless Cardbus Card

Allows you to connect your notebook to a Wireless Network. Share Photos, Music and Data wirelessly. Uses Sitecom Nitro XM 140g+ wireless standard.



Our Price **\$60** Save **\$19**
WebCode: ANY0187

Sitecom Bluetooth USB Adapter

Class 2 10m. With the Bluetooth USB Adapter you experience freedom in the widest sense! For you have in hand an extremely ingenious tool enabling you to exchange data through your mobile Bluetooth telephone or to exchange data between various PCs or notebooks with a Bluetooth USB adapter.



Our Price **\$297** Save **\$52**
WebCode: ST10003

Aten 2 Port Peripheral Sharer Switch

Ideal for Small Office or Home Office with no existing network infrastructure, or for peripherals like printers that are not networkable. Share a single USB peripheral (printer/scanner) with either 2 or 4 computers. Sharing is exclusive to computer i.e. one-at-a-time basis.

Aten 4 Port Peripheral Sharer Switch (ANY0143) **\$60**



Our Price **\$45** Save **\$5**
WebCode: ANY0142

AL Tech MediaGate 3.5" Hard Disk Media Player

This portable media player allows DivX, MPEG4, DAT, Xvid, MP3, OGG, WMA and JPEG play back. It sounds great with it's Dolby Digital capabilities and it's easy to search through all your music, movies and pics with the user friendly remote control. Using a 3.5" hard disk (not included), the MediaGate MG35 can store hundreds of movies, music files or images ready for viewing via your TV. With networking capabilities, this handy unit allows direct retrieval of files from your PC. Home entertainment has never been easier.



Our Price **\$250** Save **\$49**
WebCode: ALT2001

Sitecom USB VoiceCam

Communicate with voice and video over the internet. This webcam includes built-in microphone to enable live voice chatting. Offers high resolution and a refresh rate of up to 30 frames per second. Includes convenient adjustable clip so it can easily be mounted to a notebook or TFT screen. Desktop stand also included.



Our Price **\$52** Save **\$23**
WebCode: ANY0181



Imation CD-R 52x 700MB/80Min 10 Pack Slim Case White Inkjet Printable



Imation USB 2.0 Flash Drive Swivel & Flash Drive Mini



Imation DVD Dual Layer 16x16x8x6x4 Internal Drive



Imation Data Tape Super DLT 160/520GB



Imation CD & DVD Media

Imation CD-R, CD-RW and DVD media have a high-quality dye layer that ensures lower failure rates. Each disc is tested to meet Imation's exacting standards to protect against the toughest environmental conditions.

WebCode	Product Description	Price	SAVE
IMA0024	Imation CD-R 52x 700MB/80Min 10 + 2 Bonus Discs	\$7.50	\$3
MMM0097	Imation CD-R 52x 700MB/80Min 25 Pack Spindle	\$14	\$5
MMM4628	Imation CD-R 52x 700MB/80Min 50 Pack Spindle	\$26	\$4
IMA0025	Imation CD-RW 4x 700MB/80Min 10 + 2 Bonus Discs	\$15	\$4
IMA0026	Imation DVD-R 8x 4.7GB 10 + 2 Bonus Discs	\$37	\$15
IMA0027	Imation DVD+R 8x 4.7GB 10 + 2 Bonus Discs	\$13	\$3
MMM00804	Imation DVD+R 4x 25 Pack Spindle	\$25	\$6
MMM5947	Imation DVD+R 2.4-8.5GB Double Layer 1 Pack	\$9	\$2
IMA0014	Imation CD / DVD Coloured Jewel Cases 50 Pack	\$15	\$2

Pioneer 16x DVD+/- Dual Layer DVD Burner (Beige)

This model supports 16x write speeds on both DVD-R/+R along with the capability to write at 6x speed on DVD-R/+R Double/Dual Layer media.

Includes Nero LE



Our Price \$115

WebCode: P100042

Iomega® REV™ USB Drive

Read and write to the Iomega REV™ 35GB/90GB disks, which are pocket-sized, cartridges that hold 35GB of data (or up to 90GB of backup data with the included software compression).

Atapi (IOM2963) **\$515**

Firewire (IOM3063) **\$547**

SCSI (IOM3078) **\$683**



Our Price \$546 **Save \$153**

WebCode: IOM2955

Lacie DVD±RW Internal Drive with LightScribe

Create interactive video DVDs, store files and digital photos on your computer. New LightScribe technology burns silk-screen quality custom labels directly onto your disks with the very same laser that burns data.

External USB (LAC7830) **\$239**

External Firewire (LAC7840) **\$258**



Our Price \$175 **Save \$20**

WebCode: LAC0949

RENTSMART
Because buying isn't

SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

**XP Sound**

The "XP201" Phono/Mic pre-amp provides a combination of hard and software to achieve high quality transfer of old records and cassettes to your home desktop PC or laptop in addition to offering a handy high quality microphone pre-amp and headphone amplifier. The included software (Win only) "Diamond Cut 32 V4.0" allows users to professionally edit their recorded audio.



Our Price \$176 **Save \$23**
WebCode: XPS0001

Hot Drive 5.25" External Case

- Suitable for IDE CD-Rom, CDRW, DVDRDM, DVDR/ RW & 3.5" Hard Drives
- Cooling Fan For Excellent Heat Dissipation
- Easy to Install
- USB 2.0 up to 480Mbps Transfer Rate
- Firewire up to 400Mbps Transfer Rate
- Supports Win 98SE/ ME/2000XP & Mac OS 9.0 or later.



Our Price \$90 **Save \$39**
WebCode: HOT0005

**Senheiser HD212PRO Closed Stereo Monitoring Headphone**

The HD 212 Pro closed dynamic hi-fi stereo headphones have a balanced sound image with a slight emphasis on the bass response. D5 will like their excellent attenuation of ambient noise and the soft, comfortable ear pads.



Our Price \$110 **Save \$20**
WebCode: SHN0006

HP DeskJet Cartridges

WebCode	Product Description	Price	SAVE
HPD2061	HP Ink Cartridge № 27/28 Combo	\$45	\$5
HPD2017	HP Ink Cartridge № 56/57 Combo	\$61	\$15
HPD2025	HP Ink Cartridge № 56 Black for DJ 5550 - C6656AA	\$45	\$5
HPD4844	HP Ink Cartridge № 10 Black for DJ 2000C/2500C - C4844AA	\$45	\$17
HPG4836	HP Ink Cartridge № 11 Cyan for DJ 500/800 - C4836AA	\$45	\$10
HPG4837	HP Ink Cartridge № 11 Magenta for DJ 500/800 - C4837AA	\$45	\$10
HPG4838	HP Ink Cartridge № 11 Yellow for DJ 500/800 - C4838AA	\$45	\$10
HPD5002	HP Ink Cartridge № 14 Black - C5011DA	\$34	\$10
HPD5001	HP Ink Cartridge № 14 Colour - C5010DA	\$45	\$12
HPD6645	HP Ink Cartridge № 15 Black for DJ 810/812c/840c/845c - C6615DA	\$39	\$11
HPD6652	HP Ink Cartridge № 17 Colour for DJ 840/845c - C6625A	\$42	\$14
HPD6654	HP Ink Cartridge № 20 Black for DJ 610C/630C/640C - C6614DA	\$39	\$15
HP1182	HP Ink Cartridge № 23 Colour for DJ 720C/880C/890C - C1823DA	\$45	\$13
HPD9030	HP Ink Cartridge № 26 Black for DJ 400/405/500 - 51626AA	\$41	\$15
HPD8772	HP Ink Cartridge № 27 Black for DJ 3420 - C8727AA	\$26	\$7
HPD8782	HP Ink Cartridge № 28 Colour for DJ 3420 - C8728AA	\$30	\$8
HPD9050	HP Ink Cartridge № 29 Black for DJ 600/610/630C - 51629AA	\$41	\$3
HPD9051	HP Ink Cartridge № 45 Black for DJ 710C/720C/830C - 51645AA	\$41	\$3
HPD9090	HP Ink Cartridge № 49 Colour for DJ 600/610/630C - 51649AA	\$42	\$12
HPD6656	HP Ink Cartridge № 56 Black for DJ 5550 - C6656AA	\$28	\$7
HPD6657	HP Ink Cartridge № 57 Colour for DJ 5550C - C6657AA	\$45	\$13
HPD6658	HP Ink Cartridge № 58 Photo Colour for DJ 5550C - C6658AA	\$34	\$10
HPD9359	HP Ink Cartridge № 59 Grey Photo - C9359AA	\$35	\$15
HPD6578	HP Ink Cartridge № 78 Colour for DJ 900/1200C - C6578DA	\$45	\$13
HP1038	HP Ink Cartridge № 78 Large Colour for DJ 900/1200C - C6578AA	\$83	\$12

HP Mono LaserJet Toner Cartridges

WebCode	Product Description	Price	SAVE
HPL2612	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 1010/1015 - Q2612A	\$90	\$35
HP4092	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 1100/3200 Series 2,500 Pages - C4092A	\$75	\$24
HPL2624	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 1150 Series - Q2624A	\$102	\$29
HPL7117	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 1200 Series 3,500 Pages - C7115X	\$99	\$35
HPL2614	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 1300 Series 4,000 Pages - Q2613X	\$115	\$39
HP4096	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 2100/2200 Series 5,000 Page - C4096A	\$129	\$45
HPL2610	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 2300 Series - Q2610A	\$155	\$46
HP620	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 4/5 Series 6,000 Pages - 92298A	\$124	\$21
HP4129	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 4000 Series 10,000 Pages - C4127X	\$165	\$60
HPB8063	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 4100 Series 10,000 Pages - C8061X	\$165	\$60
HPL1338	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 4200 Series 12,000 Pages - Q1338A	\$197	\$59
HPL1339	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 4300 Series - Q1339A	\$262	\$79
HPL4182	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 8100 Series 20,000 Pages - C4182X	\$243	\$52
HP8543	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 9000 Series 30,000 - C8543X	\$355	\$108
HPL7115	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 5P/5MP/6P/6MP Series - C3903A	\$106	\$13
HPL741	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet SL/EL Series - C3906A	\$80	\$25
HPL4131	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 5000 - C4129X	\$211	\$74
HPL5949	HP Toner Cartridge for LaserJet 1160/1320 - Q5949A	\$92	\$34

HP Colour LaserJet Toner Cartridges

WebCode	Product Description	Price	SAVE
HPL9700	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 1500/2500 Black - C9700A	\$107	\$48
HPL9701	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 1500/2500 Cyan - C9701A	\$129	\$46
HPL9703	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 1500/2500 Magenta - C9703A	\$129	\$46
HPL9702	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 1500/2500 Yellow - C9702A	\$129	\$46
HPL3960	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 2550 Black - C3960A	\$108	\$20
HPL3978	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 2550 Magenta - C3961A	\$129	\$38
HPL3981	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 2550 Magenta - C3963A	\$129	\$38
HPL3979	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 2550 Yellow - C3962A	\$129	\$38
HPL2670	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 3500/3700 Black - C6707A	\$170	\$52
HPL2671	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 3500/3700 Cyan - C6761A	\$170	\$52
HPL2673	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 3500/3700 Magenta - C6723A	\$170	\$52
HPL2672	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 3500/3700 Yellow - C6727A	\$170	\$52
HPL9720	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 4600/4650 Black - C9720A	\$200	\$75
HPL9721	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 4600/4650 Cyan - C9721A	\$270	\$89
HPL9723	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 4600/4650 Magenta - C9723A	\$270	\$89
HPL9722	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 4600/4650 Yellow - C9722A	\$270	\$89
HPL9730	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 5500 Black - C9730A	\$289	\$87
HPL9731	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 5500 Cyan - C9731A	\$405	\$123
HPL9733	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 5500 Magenta - C9733A	\$405	\$123
HPL9732	HP Toner Cartridge for Colour LaserJet 5500 Yellow - C9732A	\$405	\$123

Visit www.csw.com.au for the full range of the above listed brands and other popular brands including Kyocera-Mita, Brother, Fuji Xerox and Samsung.

1300 658 600



Canon**EPSON****LEXMARK**

KOREA MANADA



Canon Ink Cartridges

WebCode**Product Description**

BCI13BK	Canon Ink Cartridge Black - BCI13BK
BCI13C	Canon Ink Cartridge Cyan - BCI13C
BCI13M	Canon Ink Cartridge Magenta - BCI13M
BCI13Y	Canon Ink Cartridge Yellow - BCI13Y
CAN0010	Canon Ink Cartridge Black - BC021BK
CAN0011	Canon Ink Cartridge Colour - BC021C
CAN0066	Canon Ink Cartridge Black - BC024BK
CAN0155	Canon Ink Cartridge Black Twin - BC024
CAN0164	Canon Ink Cartridge Colour Twin - BC024
CAN0065	Canon Ink Cartridge Colour - BC024C
CAN0048	Canon Ink Cartridge Black - BC016C
CAN0050	Canon Ink Cartridge Cyan - BC016C
CAN0051	Canon Ink Cartridge Magenta - BC016M
CAN0053	Canon Ink Cartridge Yellow - BC016Y
CAN0049	Canon Ink Cartridge Photo Cyan - BC16PC
CAN0052	Canon Ink Cartridge Photo Mag - BC16PM
CAN00210	Canon Ink Cartridge Colour - BC015C
CO058	Canon Ink Cartridge Black - BC02
CAN0011	Canon Ink Cartridge Colour - BC021C

Price

\$19	\$3
\$16	\$3
\$16	\$3
\$16	\$3
\$13	\$1
\$29	\$6
\$13	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$44	\$5
\$25	\$5
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$22	\$3
\$29	\$6

Lexar 256MB MP3 Player

The Lexar Digital Music Player LDP-600 is a full-featured Digital Music player, which lets you listen and carry your favorite music wherever you go. It supports MP3 and WMA formats. It includes an FM radio with FM memory and a voice recorder. It also includes an integrated FM transmitter so you can listen to your music files on any radio.



Our Price \$180 **Save \$40**
WebCode LXA1020



Epson Ink Cartridges

WebCode**Product Description**

EP01040	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C41UX/SX/C43UX/SX Black - T038
EP01041	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C41UX/SX/C43UX/SX Colour - T039
EP00060	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C60161 Black - T028
EP00061	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C60161 Colour - T029
EP00190	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C63/C83 Black - T0461
EP02790	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C63/C83 Cyan - T047290
EP03790	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C63/C83 Magenta - T047390
EP04790	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C63/C83 Yellow - T047490
EP07011	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C70/C80/C82 Black - T032190
EP07022	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C70/C80/C82 Magenta - T032390
EP07033	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C70/C80/C82 Yellow - T032490
EP07044	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C70/C80/C82 - T04290
EP07012	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C80 Cyan - T04290
EP07013	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C80 Magenta - T042930
EP07014	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C80 Yellow - T042940
EP01305	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus C80/400/600/800/1000 - T050190
EP09212	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus 400/600/800/1000 - T052090
EP00890	Epson Ink Cartridge for R210/R310/R510 Black - T0491
EP00511	Epson Ink Cartridge for R210/R310/R510 Cyan - T0492
EP00514	Epson Ink Cartridge for R210/R310/R510 Light Cyan - T0495
EP00515	Epson Ink Cartridge for R210/R310/R510 Magenta - T0496
EP00512	Epson Ink Cartridge for R210/R310/R510 Yellow - T0494
EP00513	Epson Ink Cartridge for R210/R310/R510 - T0494
EP00810	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus 810/830/850/950 Black - T026
EP00811	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus 810/830/850/950 Colour - T027
EP04070	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus 870/890/895/1270/1290 Black - T007
EP04120	Epson Ink Cartridge for Stylus 1270/1290 Colour - T009

Price

\$15	\$2
\$23	\$4
\$36	\$9
\$32	\$8
\$18	\$5
\$25	\$5
\$40	\$5
\$53	\$5
\$22	\$3
\$29	\$6

Lexmark Toner Cartridges

WebCode**Product Description**

LEX9481	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 25k - 12A5845
LEX5224	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 52x - 12A6835
LEX6223	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 62x - 12A6865
LEX9642	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 632/634 - 12A7465
LEX9639	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 630/632 - 12A7462

Price

\$423	\$149
\$423	\$149
\$473	\$133
\$463	\$129
\$343	\$95

Konica Minolta Toner Cartridges

WebCode**Product Description**

QMS1302	Konica Minolta Toner Cartridge for 1300W/6K
QMS1303	Konica Minolta Drum Cartridge for 1300W/20K
QMS2304	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge for 2300W - Black
QMS2305	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge for 2300W - Yellow
QMS2306	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge for 2300W - Magenta
QMS2307	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge for 2300W - Cyan
QMS2404	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge For 2400W - Black
QMS2407	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge For 2400W - Cyan
QMS2406	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge For 2400W - Magenta
QMS2405	Konica Minolta High Capacity Toner Cartridge For 2400W - Yellow
QMS5449	Konica Minolta Toner Cartridge for 5440 - Black
QMS5448	Konica Minolta Toner Cartridge for 5440 - Magenta
QMS5447	Konica Minolta Toner Cartridge for 5440 - Yellow

Price

\$135	\$26
\$151	\$24
\$124	\$20
\$187	\$29
\$187	\$29
\$187	\$29
\$130	\$14
\$194	\$22
\$194	\$22
\$237	\$40
\$340	\$58
\$340	\$58
\$340	\$58

HitVideoLab Home Theatre Headset

Get the most out of your next DVD viewing experience! The HitVideoLab 6 channel home theatre headset is an innovative way for people to enjoy the awesome sound of Dolby Digital AC-3 or DTS Digital Surround.



Our Price \$535 **Save \$165**
WebCode LOG3466



Lexmark Ink Cartridges

WebCode**Product Description**

LEX9481	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 25k - 12A5845
LEX5224	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 52x - 12A6835
LEX6223	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 62x - 12A6865
LEX9642	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 632/634 - 12A7465
LEX9639	Lexmark Toner Cartridge for Optra T 630/632 - 12A7462

Price

\$423	\$149
\$423	\$149
\$473	\$133
\$463	\$129
\$343	\$95

RENT SMART
Because buying isn't
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

Australian Guide to Online Genealogy

Written specifically for Australians, as a clear, easy-to-follow guide, The Australian Guide to Online Genealogy covers the tips and techniques on how to use the Internet and how to begin tracing your ancestry.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$23** Save **\$6**
WebCode: PGN0008

Secrets of the iPod, 5E

Thoroughly updated guide reveals the secrets to using the world's most popular digital music player.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$23** Save **\$6**
WebCode: PGN0016

The Concise Penguin Dictionary of Computing

This highly accessible dictionary is the ideal source of information on all aspects of the world and language of computers. Covering terms from A20 gate to zip drive, via floppy disk, matrix and Word for Windows, The Concise Penguin Dictionary of Computing will be invaluable for students to experts, including programmers and engineers, but to anyone who owns or uses a computer and wishes to improve their skills.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$19** Save **\$5**
WebCode: PGN0018

Complete Wireless Home Networking

An all-in-one guide that covers every angle of home wireless networking - from product selection to implementation and maintenance.

- Targets home wireless networking, explaining how to add wireless devices of all types, it also has a section for the best free advice on the Web.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$27** Save **\$7**
WebCode: PGN0014

Home Networking: A Visual Do It Yourself Guide

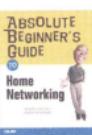
Looking to network your entire home? This is one of the only networking books you'll ever need! Setting up a home network doesn't need to be difficult. You can use this easy-to-understand reference to set up your home network, secure it, and turn it into an entertainment network. Don't be fooled by other guides - it can be that simple!



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$31** Save **\$8**
WebCode: PGN0017

Absolute Beginner's Guide to Home Networking

You want to network your home but where do you start? Network your life, not just your computers! The perfect read for those starting out.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$23** Save **\$6**
WebCode: PGN0015

Defend I.T.: Security By Example

Reports of computer crime and incidents from the Computer Crime Center at Carnegie Mellon University more than double each year and are expected to rise.

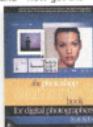
Meanwhile, viruses and worms continue to take down organizations for days. Defend I.T.: Security By Example contains a plethora of real life case studies illustrating how to secure your computer network once and for all.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$42** Save **\$12**
WebCode: PGN0001

The Photoshop Elements 3 Book for Digital Photographers

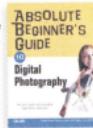
The software is one of the most sought after photo editing packages around - now get the book on how to take advantage of the features! Edit images like a pro in this Photoshop Elements 3 handbook for digital photographers from best-selling author Scott Kelby.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$42** Save **\$12**
WebCode: PGN0045

Absolute Beginner's Guide to Digital Photography

You have a digital camera, now what? Thanks to memory sticks, docking stations, computers, image editing software, and printers, using your new digital camera can be frustrating and intimidating. With Absolute Beginner's Guide to Digital Photography, you'll learn everything you need to know to take great digital pictures and share them with friends or family.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$19** Save **\$5**
WebCode: PGN0042

Digital Scrapbooking

Are you a traditional scrapbook enthusiast looking for a way to organize your memories electronically? Have you never tried scrapbooking because you're not sure where to start? "Digital Scrapbooking" is here to start you on your journey! Cover the fundamentals of digital photography and digital scrapbook elements incorporating existing elements or even creating your own.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$23** Save **\$6**
WebCode: PGN0080

How Secure Is Your Wireless Network?

Safeguarding Your Wi-Fi LAN

• Step-by-step guidelines and best practices for deploying secure wireless LANs in an enterprise or home environment and also within consumer networks.

- Explains all 802.11 security solutions; covers WEP, 802.11i, WPA, and EAP.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$49** Save **\$15**
WebCode: PGN0090

Upgrading and Repairing PCs, 16E

The DEFINITIVE book on PC hardware upgrading and repairing - found on more desktops of PC hardware professionals than any other book! Learn from the undisputed leading PC world renowned PC hardware expert Scott Mueller. Scott has taught thousand in his weeklong seminars and millions through his books, videos and articles.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$74** Save **\$20**
WebCode: PGN0021

Easy Creating CDs & DVDs

• Simple, easy to follow step-by-step guide for the beginner on adding data, audio and digital video to CDs and DVDs.

- While the book as a whole is general, with many how-to tips and hints, it focuses on major software programs to illustrate these concepts.
- Includes coverage of audio and video CD creation as well as authoring and outputting DVDs.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$23** Save **\$6**
WebCode: PGN0029

The Rough Guide to the Internet

10 years, 10 editions: the multi-million-selling Internet book has come of age and is still the ultimate handbook for novices and experts alike. Written plain English, it covers everything from getting online to the latest software, to time to advanced tips and tricks guaranteed to turn casual surfers into Net gurus. Whether you've never sent an email or you want to keep up with the latest developments, you need this book.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$12** Save **\$3**
WebCode: PGN0020

Introduction to Computer Security

In this authoritative book, widely respected practitioner and teacher Matt Bishop presents a clear and useful introduction to the art and science of information security. Bishop's insights and realistic examples will help any practitioner or student understand the crucial links between security theory and the day-to-day security challenges of IT environments.



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$74** Save **\$20**
WebCode: PGN0003

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Our price is the lowest price we can offer at this time. All prices may change due to the daily fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

1300 658 600

CITY
SOFTWARE

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 12

Plus FREE KPT Collection Plus FREE Corel KnockOut 2

Streamline your workflow with one complete package

With new smart design tools, it's now easier and faster to produce more creative and accurate shapes and objects—giving you a more powerful Windows graphics suite. Discover new and advanced features that increase productivity, such as real-time visual feedback, a more workflow smooth with industry-standard file compatibility, including SVG, AutoCAD, HPGL, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, PDF, and new Microsoft Office export. With integrated applications for vector drawing, page layout, digital imaging and motion graphics all in one box, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 12 offers value that's second to none.

Full (COR8926) \$645

Purchase CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 12 and receive a Lexmark Z513 printer FREE*



*Conditions Apply

Corel Painter IX

Powerful Natural-Media painting and illustration software

Corel Painter IX—the world's most powerful Natural-Media painting and illustration software—features unique digital brushes, art materials and tools to capture the look and feel of their traditional counterparts. The newest version of Corel Painter takes digital design to unprecedented levels with the revolutionary Artists' Oils Painting System, Snap-to-Painting, Quick Clone for photographers, and brushes that perform up to ten times faster than previous versions. Corel Painter enables some of the world's most accomplished creative professionals—including commercial designers, artists, and photographers—to extend their natural talents and techniques to create original works of breathtaking digital art.

Full (COR8900) \$638

Academic (COR8602) \$150



Created with
Corel Painter IX



Upgrade
Our Price \$349 Save \$80
WebCode COR8601

Corel WordPerfect Office 12 Home Edition

Work easily, creatively and securely on your home computer

With WordPerfect Office 12 Home Edition, your entire household can work easily, creatively and securely on your home computer. Loaded with value, this feature-rich suite is the ultimate home computing companion. It provides everything you need to easily research topics for home or school projects, create impressive-looking documents, manage personal finances, enhance and share digital photos, and burn music and data CDs and DVDs. Plus, with Symantec Norton Internet Security 2005, it helps safeguard your computer against Internet hackers, viruses and spam, and protect your privacy online. WordPerfect Office 12 Home Edition—eight leading home PC tools. One complete package.

Features:

- WordPerfect 12
- Quattro Pro 12
- Norton Internet Security 2005
- Pinnacle Instant CD/DVD Version 9 LE
- Encyclopedia Britannica Ready Reference 2005
- Corel PhotoBook
- Corel PhotoAlbum
- WordPerfect Office ready Personal Finance Essentials

Complete Home
Office Solution!



Our Price \$135 Save \$34
WebCode COR8269

Corel DESIGNER Technical Suite 12

Designed to streamline your workflow and fit within your budget, Corel DESIGNER Technical Suite 12 provides all the powerful technical graphics software you need in one easy-to-use, intuitive solution.

Corel DESIGNER Technical Suite 12 combines precision drawing and photo-editing tools with industry-standard file format compatibility so you can accelerate your design and production processes. The suite includes Corel DESIGNER 12, Corel PHOTO-PAINT 12, CorelTRACE 12, Corel CAPTURE 12, Microsoft Visual Basic for Applications 6.3 and much more.

Upgrade (COR8673) \$448



Full
Our Price \$1032 Save \$267
WebCode COR8672

WordPerfect Office 12 Small Business Edition

Everything you need to run a small business. Create professional-looking documents and presentations. Get versatile spreadsheets with Quattro Pro 12. Protect information using antivirus and firewall software. Communicate effectively with co-workers, clients and partners using WordPerfect Mail. Save time with WordPerfect Office ready solution packs. Paint Shop Pro 9 allows creativity with professional photo editing.

Compatible with Microsoft Office and other popular file formats, WordPerfect Office 12 - Small Business Edition features a familiar look and feel. Invest time and money back in your business: this feature-packed suite translates into great value!



Full
Our Price \$505 Save \$94
WebCode COR8321

Paint Shop Pro 9

Paint Shop Pro 9 is the premier tool for affordable, professional photo editing. With superior photo editing power, precision graphic design and advanced digital art capabilities, Paint Shop Pro is the software for people whose creativity has no limits. Featuring highly customized workspace options and streamlined production tools, Paint Shop Pro provides advanced tools for creative imaginations.

Upgrade (JAS0022) \$162
Academic (JAS0023) \$199



Our Price \$262 Save \$37
WebCode JAS0021

Paint Shop Pro Studio

Paint Shop Pro Studio makes all your photo projects fun and easy. Photo restoration and editing, organizing and sharing, scrapbooking, home remodeling, whatever you want to do with your photos, Paint Shop Pro Studio has the tools you need for fast, fantastic results. Includes Paint Shop Photo Album Standard Edition FREE.



Our Price \$189 Save \$10
WebCode JAS0025

Paint Shop Photo Album 5 Deluxe

Paint Shop Photo Album 5 Deluxe Edition is the easiest way to organize, protect, and share your photos - guaranteed! This smart and simple software helps you do exactly what you want with your photos. Organize them. Touch them up. Share them. Protect them. Photo Album 5 is where your photos live - you'll love it!



Our Price \$87 Save \$12
WebCode JAS0019

The perfect combination of control and reliability for home video editing. Experiment with effects, transitions, text, and audio. Transfer footage from your DV camcorder. Quickly edit your footage, add fun effects, and create custom DVDs complete with menus and scene indexes.

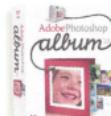
Academic (AEP992) \$99



Our Price \$155 Save \$48
WebCode ALD9522

Adobe Photoshop® Album 2.0

Now you can see all of your pictures in one convenient place. Instantly sort them by date or use keywords to organise photos by people, places, events or any other subject you choose.



Our Price \$65 Save \$21
WebCode ALD9509

Adobe Photoshop® Elements 3.0

Transform your digital photos like a pro. Use advanced editing options, instantly correct color and lighting, remove imperfections and transform your photos with fun effects.

Mac (ALD9512) \$139

Academic \$99



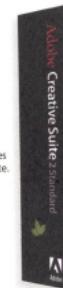
Full Version
Our Price \$155 Save \$44
WebCode Win ALD9516

Adobe® Creative Suite 2 Standard

Adobe Creative Suite 2 Standard software, built for print workflows, combines full new versions of Adobe Photoshop®, Illustrator®, InDesign®, and the enhanced Version Cue® file-version manager, the new Adobe Bridge file browser, new Adobe Stock Photos, and support for consistent color and Adobe PDF file creation, allowing you to realise your ideas more efficiently than ever as you publish to print, the Web, and mobile devices.

includes:

- **Adobe Photoshop**
Adobe® Photoshop® CS2 software, the professional image-editing standard and leader of the Photoshop digital imaging line, delivers groundbreaking creative tools; unprecedented adaptability; and more efficient editing, processing, and file handling.
- **Illustrator**
Adobe® Illustrator® CS2 software gives you powerful new creative options, easier access to tools, and the versatility to quickly produce flexible graphics for print, video, the Web, and mobile devices.
- **InDesign**
With its sophisticated design and production controls and unmatched integration with other Adobe applications, Adobe® InDesign® CS2 software is not only a better choice for page layout—it's a superior way to work.
- **Version Cue file-version manager**
Access both historical versions and parallel "alternates" of project files, including both Adobe and common non-Adobe file formats, in Version Cue® CS2.
- **Adobe Bridge file browser**
Efficiently organize, browse, locate, and preview the assets you need every day from within the new Adobe Bridge visual file browser.
- **Adobe Stock Photos**
Browse and search royalty-free images from multiple leading stock photo agencies in one convenient, familiar location using Adobe Stock Photos. Purchase Images from several agencies in a single shopping cart, and manage your imagery without ever leaving Adobe Creative Suite.



Combines full new versions of
Adobe's leading design tools
with Version Cue® CS2 and new
Adobe Bridge

Upgrade from Photoshop
Our Price \$844 Save \$244

WebCode Mac

ALD9556

Our Price \$244

WebCode Win

ALD9557

Upgrade from CS
Our Price \$588 Save \$177

WebCode Mac

ALG0030

Our Price \$177

WebCode Win

ALG0031

Full
Our Price \$1414 Save \$450

WebCode Mac

ALD9554

Our Price \$450

WebCode Win

ALD9555

Adobe® Creative Suite 2 Premium

Adobe® Creative Suite 2 Premium software is a unified design environment that combines full new versions of Adobe Photoshop® CS2, Illustrator® CS2, InDesign® CS2, GoLive® CS2, and Acrobat® 7.0 Professional software with new Version Cue® CS2, the Adobe Bridge file browser, and Adobe Stock Photos. Delivering the next level of integration in creative software, plus consistent color and Adobe PDF file creation across components, Adobe Creative Suite 2 enables you to realize your ideas anywhere—in print, on the Web, or on mobile devices.

includes:

- **Adobe Photoshop**
Adobe® Photoshop® CS2 software, the professional image-editing standard and leader of the Photoshop digital imaging line, delivers groundbreaking creative tools; unprecedented adaptability; and more efficient editing, processing, and file handling.
- **Illustrator**
Adobe® Illustrator® CS2 software gives you powerful new creative options, easier access to tools, and the versatility to quickly produce flexible graphics for print, video, the Web, and mobile devices.
- **InDesign**
With its sophisticated design and production controls and unmatched integration with other Adobe applications, Adobe® InDesign® CS2 software is not only a better choice for page layout—it's a superior way to work.
- **GoLive CS2**
Unlock the power of CSS with intuitive visual tools, easily take your existing Adobe design assets to the Web, and build and manage Web and mobile sites using the advanced, standards-based coding environment in Adobe® GoLive® CS2 software.
- **Acrobat 7.0 Professional**
Adobe® Acrobat® 7.0 Professional software is the advanced way to create, control, and deliver more secure, high-quality Adobe PDF documents.
- **Version Cue file-version manager**
Access both historical versions and parallel "alternates" of project files, including both Adobe and common non-Adobe file formats, in Version Cue® CS2.
- **Adobe Bridge file browser**
Efficiently organize, browse, locate, and preview the assets you need every day from within the new Adobe Bridge visual file browser.
- **Adobe Stock Photos**
Browse and search royalty-free images from multiple leading stock photo agencies in one convenient, familiar location using Adobe Stock Photos. Purchase Images from several agencies in a single shopping cart, and manage your imagery without ever leaving Adobe Creative Suite.



Education

Our Price \$557 Save \$152

WebCode Mac

AEP0183

Upgrade from CS

Our Price \$869 Save \$288

WebCode Mac

ALG0028

Upgrade from Photoshop

Our Price \$1249 Save \$372

WebCode Mac

ALD9560

Full
Our Price \$1829 Save \$655

WebCode Mac

ALD9558

Our Price \$655

WebCode Win

ALD9559

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?

Academic prices are not available on software components as prices may change due to the daily fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

Adobe® Photoshop® CS2

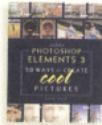
Adobe® Photoshop® CS2 software, the professional image-editing standard and leader of the Photoshop digital imaging line, delivers more of what you crave. Groundbreaking technology helps you create and enhance images with extraordinary results. Unprecedented adaptability lets you custom-fit Photoshop to the way you work. And with exceptionally smooth editing, processing, and file handling, there's no slowing you down. Bring your images to life with Photoshop CS2.

- Create extraordinary images with groundbreaking technology.
- Be more productive with an intuitive workspace that you can adapt to your needs.
- Save time with smoother file handling and multi-image digital camera raw file processing.

Our Price \$289	Our Price \$995
Save \$48	Save \$243
WebCode Mac ALG0049	WebCode Mac ALD9552
WebCode Win ALG0050	WebCode Win ALD9553

**Adobe Photoshop Elements 3**
50 Ways To Create Cool Pictures

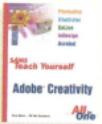
Author Dave Huss covers both of these tools in this practical, fun guide to learning Photoshop Elements 3. This book covers both the Macintosh and Windows versions of Photoshop Elements 3.



	Our Price \$39	Save \$10
WebCode PGN0038		

Adobe Creative Suite All In One

All the answers for beginning users of Adobe's graphics products in one big, easy to use book. It doesn't assume the reader wants to learn how to use just one product, but covers multiple products and technologies together in a logical, well-integrated fashion.



	Our Price \$48	Save \$11
WebCode PGN0032		

Total Training Digital Photography & Adobe Photoshop Elements 3

Photography expert, Brian Maffitt, clarifies the processes of importing pictures to a computer; manipulating and adjusting them in Photoshop Elements, and sharing them.



	Our Price \$94	Save \$5
WebCode TOT0004		

Adobe® Acrobat® 7.0 Professional

Adobe® Acrobat® 7.0 Professional software is the advanced way to create, control, and deliver more secure, high-quality Adobe PDF documents. Assemble electronic or paper files—even Web sites, engineering drawings, and e-mail—into reliable PDF documents that are easy to share with others using free Adobe Reader® 7.0 software. Manage document reviews, synthesizing feedback from multiple reviewers while preserving document format and integrity. Extend commenting capabilities to anyone using Adobe Reader 7.0. Windows® users can design intelligent Adobe PDF forms that include business logic, such as calculations and data validations, to help increase the accuracy of data collection while reducing the costs of manual data entry.

Standard Upgrade \$155 Standard Academic \$132

Standard \$429 Professional Academic \$198

Our Price \$249	Our Price \$638
Save \$60	Save \$228
WebCode Mac ADU0074	WebCode Mac ALD9526
WebCode Win ADU0075	WebCode Win ALD9527

**Adobe® Illustrator® CS2**

Adobe® Illustrator® CS2 software gives you new creative freedom that lets you realize your ideas quickly and powerfully. Instantly convert bitmaps to editable and scalable vector artwork, paint more intuitively, and use advanced type and precise drawing tools. Save time with intelligent toolbars, optimized workspaces, and bonus fonts and templates that help you jump-start your designs. Plus, tight integration with other software provides the flexibility you need to produce extraordinary graphics for print, video, the Web, and mobile devices.

- Quickly convert bitmaps to vectors with new Live Trace, and colorize intuitively with Live Paint.
- Find tools faster with an interface that's customizable to the way you work.
- Display your work using industry-standard formats such as SVG, PDF/X, PDF, PSD, and more.
- Work more efficiently with other Adobe applications, Macromedia® Flash® (SWF), QuarkXPress, and Microsoft Office.

Our Price \$295	Our Price \$891
Save \$85	Save \$202

**Adobe® InDesign® CS2**

Join the growing ranks of creative professionals discovering new levels of creative freedom and productivity using Adobe® InDesign® CS2 software. Tightly integrated with the Adobe applications you use most, including Adobe Photoshop®, Illustrator®, Acrobat®, GoLive®, and InCopy® software, InDesign® CS2 delivers faster production workflows and a more fluid creative environment for designing and outputting professional page layouts. Explore the rich support for typography, graphics, transparency effects, object styles, text styles, and other sophisticated design and production features that have inspired the creative community worldwide.

- Design professional page layouts using unparalleled support for native Adobe file formats, sophisticated typographical controls, and rich creative options, including transparency effects, flexible table creation, object and text styles, and more.

Our Price \$595	Our Price \$1242
Save \$171	Save \$281

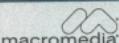
**Adobe® GoLive® CS2**

Adobe® GoLive® CS2 software lets you unlock the power of CSS with intuitive visual tools such as prebuilt CSS objects that you can drag and drop to build sophisticated sites. Jump-start your designs by automatically converting Adobe InDesign® layouts into XHTML or CSS Web pages. Or, design lead-edge Web and mobile content and applications in an advanced coding environment that supports SVG Tiny, SMIL, MMS, MPEG-4, XHTML, CSS, and other open global standards. Maintain your sites with comprehensive site management tools.

- Build sophisticated CSS-based Web content in an intuitive visual environment and enjoy comprehensive site maintenance.
- Efficiently create or leverage assets for your Web and mobile sites through tight integration with Adobe® Creative Suite 2.
- Design mobile sites and applications based on open standards, using visual authoring tools and native device emulation.

Our Price \$295	Our Price \$715
Save \$85	Save \$162



**QuarkXPress 6.5**

Much more than a page layout tool, QuarkXPress 6.5 provides proven performance with graphics and colour management, text processing, Web-page design, XML output and more!

QuarkXPress is a powerful layout solution with an intuitive, versatile interface that lets you combine writing, editing, and typography with color and pictures to produce dynamic final output.

- Supports Mac OS X v10.3, Windows 2000, and Windows XP.

- Perform advanced image manipulation functions within QuarkXPress to match it with the surrounding page layout.

- Import native Adobe Photoshop layouts while keeping the layers, channels, and paths intact.

Upgrade from 4 \$935

Upgrade from 5 \$635

Academic \$1199



Our Price \$2332 **Save \$378**

WebCode Win QUA0033

WebCode Mac QUA0032

Centennial Media Dreamweaver MX Training

Dreamweaver MX 2004 package includes 3 CDs of training for Dreamweaver MX and 1 CD of training for Dreamweaver MX 2004 new features. Your trainer is Macromedia Specialist Trainer Paul Le Fevre. Comprehensive training for designers and developers alike.



Our Price \$329 **Save \$34**

WebCode CEN0052

Macromedia ColdFusion MX 7

The most significant release of ColdFusion since its inception ten years ago. Still the easiest, most way to build and deploy powerful Internet applications, ColdFusion MX 7 introduces powerful, new server-side features for rich Flash and XForms generation, integrated business reports, dynamic generation of printable documents, and application access through Instant Messaging and SMS text messaging on mobile devices. Used alone or in conjunction with J2EE or .NET solutions, ColdFusion MX 7 solves new classes of problems while reducing development time and costs.

Standard Academic (MME2006) \$974

Standard Upgrade (MMC2005) \$752

Enterprise Upgrade (MMC2001) \$3498

Enterprise (MMC2000) \$6942

Standard
Our Price \$1479 **Save \$339**
WebCode

**Macromedia Studio MX 2004**

Macromedia Studio MX 2004 integrates the leading professional tools for developing the full range of web sites and internet applications. Build websites and applications with Dreamweaver, create interactive content with Flash, generate web graphics with Fireworks, and incorporate vector graphics with FreeHand. Streamline web development workflow, enhancing productivity and ease-of-use. For developers delivering rich interactive applications, also available with Flash Professional.

Academic (MAC0300) \$284

Upgrade from MX (MAC0216) \$607

Upgrade from any Macromedia product (MAC0215) \$739

Full with Flash Pro (MAC0217) \$1475

Academic with Flash Pro (MAC0301) \$359

Full
Our Price \$1255 **Save \$338**
WebCode

**Macromedia Captivate**

Create professional-quality, interactive Flash simulations and software demonstrations. Without programming or multimedia skills, automatically record all on-screen actions to instantly create demonstrations complete with mouse movements and text captions, or simulations with scored interactions and instructional feedback. Point and click to add text, images, and add-on learning interactions. Captivate files are small in size, high resolution, and are SCORM/ICC compliant for elearning, LMS deployment. Seamless integration with Macromedia Breeze and Flash MX 2004 provides design, development, and delivery capabilities.

Academic (MME0236) \$286

Upgrade (MMC1093) \$418

Full
Our Price \$689 **Save \$129**
WebCode

**Macromedia Contribute 3**

Macromedia Contribute 3 redefines web publishing, making it an activity open to everybody, everyday, requiring no technical expertise. Contribute 3 lets everyone in an organization publish to websites, bringing them alive with up-to-date content and effective communication.

Academic (MME0235) \$132

Upgrade (MMC0229) \$117

6 Pack (MMC0228) \$1025

Full
Our Price \$225 **Save \$31**
WebCode

**Macromedia Dreamweaver MX 2004**

A powerful combination of visual layout tools, application development features, and code editing support, enabling developers and designers to create visually appealing, standards-based sites and applications quickly. Dreamweaver provides the tools professionals need in an integrated, streamlined environment.

Academic (MAC0221) \$145

Upgrade (MAC0204) \$302

Full
Our Price \$598 **Save \$111**
WebCode

**Macromedia Flash MX Pro 2004**

Improved rich media support, streamlined publishing and robust features to jumpstart development of interactive experiences plus advanced functions for creating interactive content, professional quality video experiences, and mobile phone and devices.

Academic (MACE0224) \$232

Upgrade (MACE0212) \$465

Standard (MACE0209) \$770

Standard Up (MACE0210) \$309

Standard Aca (MACE0223) \$145

Full
Our Price \$1068 **Save \$62**
WebCode

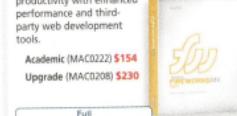
**Macromedia Fireworks MX 2004**

Create, optimize and integrate great-looking web graphics. Fireworks MX 2004 provides professional control that enables easy creation of sophisticated rollover effects, multi-state buttons and pop-up menus. Fireworks MX 2004 streamlines productivity with enhanced performance and third-party web development tools.

Academic (MACE0222) \$154

Upgrade (MACE0208) \$230

Full
Our Price \$468 **Save \$25**
WebCode



Full
Our Price \$1255 **Save \$338**
WebCode

**Macromedia Web Publishing System**

The Macromedia Web Publishing System is a scalable, complete solution for businesses to affordably build, manage, and publish to websites. The Web Publishing System starter 10-pack consists of:

- 10 Contribute 3 licenses for business users
- 1 Studio MX 2004 with Flash Professional and 1 Contribute 3 license for a web developer
- 11 Contribute Publishing Services user access license
- Plus Contribute and Contribute Publishing Services maintenance for 1 year

The system meets the full spectrum of needs for web developers, IT managers, and business professionals—empowering users to easily publish to the web within a centrally controlled, standards-based environment.

10 User
Our Price \$3558 **Save \$441**
WebCode

**Macromedia Director MX 2004**

The tool for building rich, interactive content and applications for CDs, DVDs, kiosks, and the Internet. Director MX 2004 handles the widest variety of media, letting you build compelling, high-performance content—such as learning applications, corporate demonstrations, and games—that delivers measurable results.

Academic (MME0043) \$730

Upgrade (MMC0185) \$612

Full
Our Price \$1845 **Save \$393**
WebCode

**Macromedia Freehand MX**

Concept and design visually-rich graphics for print and web with Macromedia FreeHand MX, the multi-publishing design solution with powerful illustration and drawing tools and an open, streamlined workflow.

Academic \$145

Upgrade from 10 \$175

Upgrade from 9 \$249

Full
Our Price \$578 **Save \$74**
WebCode Mac MAC0138
WebCode Win MAC0139



CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Call 1300 658 600 or visit, www.ccs.com.au as prices may change due to the daily fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

1300 658 600

CITY
SOFTWARE

AutoCAD LT 2006

You've spoken and we've listened. The world's number one seller for 2D drafting and detailing, AutoCAD LT® software is better than ever. With AutoCAD LT 2006, hatching is more flexible, dimensioning is improved, and text editing works the way you always wanted it to. Add a more intuitive interface, and the tasks you perform every day are streamlined with just one thing in mind—boosting your productivity. With enhanced editing tools, seamless document sharing, full DWG file format compatibility, and the elimination of tedious workarounds, you've never experienced a more efficient design process.

AutoCAD LT 2006



NEW

Full Version
Our Price \$1885 Save \$260
WebCode.....AUT0082

Upgrade
Our Price \$685 Save \$65
WebCode.....AUT0083

Autodesk VIZ 2006

Award-winning Autodesk VIZ provides a fluid 3D environment for modelling, rendering and animation. Whether you're an architect, land planner or mechanical designer, you can use Autodesk VIZ throughout the design process to develop and explore concepts and alternatives, communicate design intent to clients and validate your design to ensure they are error free. Autodesk VIZ, a multimedia software tool that brings your designs alive.

Upgrade from
2005 (AUT0093)
\$770



Our Price \$3345 Save \$175
WebCode.....AUT0092

AutoSketch 9

AutoSketch 9 software provides a comprehensive set of CAD tools for creating precision drawings—from electrical details to floor plans, from conceptual sketches to product specifications, and much more. Offers straightforward drafting in a Windows XP-like environment plus tutorials and wizards for a fast start.



Our Price \$192 Save \$28
WebCode.....AUT0077

AutoCAD 2006

AutoCAD® 2006, the 20th release of AutoCAD software, builds upon a tradition of innovation, resulting in true out-of-the-box productivity. Migration is easy, deployment is simple, and intuitive new features make learning a snap. New drafting and annotation tools such as Dynamic Blocks and enhanced hatching eliminate the need for time-consuming workarounds. These new features in conjunction with powerful existing tools like the Sheet Set Manager and tool palettes offer a complete set of tools to manage everything from simple to complex projects.

Upgrade from 2004
(AUT0086)
\$1928

Upgrade from 2002
(AUT0087)
\$2739

NEW

AutoCAD 2006



Autodesk

Full Version
Our Price \$5979 Save \$621
WebCode.....AUT0084

Upgrade from 2005
Our Price \$915 Save \$53
WebCode.....AUT0085

Upgrade from 2002
Our Price \$915 Save \$53
WebCode.....AUT0085

Autodesk Raster Design 2006

Now you can easily use and reuse existing design data in scanned maps, drawings, aerial photographs, and satellite imagery. Autodesk Raster Design, the editing and image-processing tool that works inside your AutoCAD®-based application, can save hours of drawing time by converting raster images into vector and combining drawings with real-world imagery.



Our Price \$2822 Save \$170
WebCode.....AUT0091

Autodesk Symbols 2000

Autodesk Symbols 2000 simplifies routine drawing tasks and boosts productivity through a toolbar-style graphical interface, which guides you rapidly through a wide selection of technically correct symbols. With a click of the mouse symbols are placed easily and exactly where they are needed.

Architectural Series contains over 5,600 symbols for building design and documentation. Engineering Series containing over 10,000 symbols covering all aspects of Engineering.

Architectural
Our Price \$189 Save \$31
WebCode.....AC0098

Engineering
Our Price \$189 Save \$31
WebCode.....AC0099

Autodesk DWF Composer 2

Accelerate design reviews with Autodesk® DWF™ Composer, the all-digit way to review, mark up, and revise 2D and 3D designs. View and print DWG and DWF™ files with accuracy and fidelity, then measure and annotate the DWF file before round-tripping the markups for revisions. Cycle times, errors, and costs will shrink. Efficiency, however, will soar.

Upgrade
(AUT0094)
\$160



Our Price \$329 Save \$23
WebCode.....AUT0090

Autodesk Volo View 3

Using Volo View 3, team members can view, mark up, measure, print, and plot AutoCAD 2004, Autodesk Inventor 7, and raster formats as well as DWF (Design Web Format) files without the original design creation software. The files display and print exactly as the document creator intended—with rich design information, such as layers, views, and measurements.

Upgrade
(AUT0043)
\$165



Our Price \$319 Save \$33
WebCode.....AUT0042

Inventor Series

- Autodesk Inventor
- Autodesk Mechanical Desktop
- AutoCAD Mechanical
- AutoCAD (included as part of AutoCAD Mechanical)

NEW

AUTODESK INVENTOR PROFESSIONAL 10



Autodesk

Our Price \$249 Save \$26
WebCode.....AUT0078

Revit Series

- Autodesk Revit
- AutoCAD

NEW

AUTODESK AutoCAD RPVT SERIES 8



Autodesk

Our Price \$249 Save \$26
WebCode.....AUT0074

Building Series

- Autodesk Architectural Desktop
- AutoCAD (included as part of Autodesk Architectural Desktop)

NEW

AUTODESK ARCHITECTURAL DESKTOP 2006



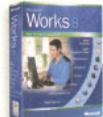
Autodesk

Our Price \$249 Save \$26
WebCode.....AUT0072

AutoCAD, Autodesk Civil 3D and Autodesk VIZ student versions also available separately.

Microsoft Works 8

Works 8 is the latest version of Microsoft's essential home productivity software. It includes a word processor, spreadsheet, database and calendar. Plus, Works 8 has professionally designed templates and a new tool to help organise common projects. **Buy Works 8 and upgrade to Office for less!**



Our Price \$82 **Save \$17**
WebCode MSC2920

Microsoft Digital Image Suite 10

Packed with all of the tools you need to organise your photos, edit them using hundreds of tools, print and share your work and archive photos for safekeeping.

Licensing pricing available.

Picture It Photo Premium 10
(MSC2922) \$83



Our Price \$97 **Save \$22**
WebCode MSC2921

Microsoft Encarta Premium Suite 2005

Encyclopedia with research and learning tools. Dictionary & Thesaurus, Literature Guides and Chart Maker.

Licensing pricing available.

Standard 2005 (MSC2470) \$22

Premium CD (MSC2471) \$69



DVD Our Price \$69 **Save \$10**
WebCode MSC2472

Microsoft Works Suite 2005

Works Suite includes five popular Microsoft home products in one, easy-to-use package. Works Suite includes Microsoft Works, Microsoft Word and the latest versions of Microsoft Money Standard, Microsoft Encarta standard, and Microsoft Picture It! Photo Premium.

Buy Works Suite and upgrade to Office for less!



Our Price \$139 **Save \$30**
WebCode MSC2924

Microsoft MSDN Universal 7

Provides priority access to essential resources for developers, including timely delivery of everything you need to build XML Web services and applications. Get uninterrupted access to the latest Microsoft technologies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week online and through regular CD or DVR updates.

Upgrade/Renewal (MSA0778) \$2975



Full Our Price \$3629 **Save \$264**
WebCode MSA0777

Microsoft Exchange Server 2003 Standard

Designed to meet the messaging and communication needs of small and medium-size corporations. With Exchange 2003 Standard, you get:

- Exchange 2003
- The flexibility to be configured as a Microsoft Office Outlook Web Access front-end server
- 16-gigabyte data storage maximum
- Full (MSA2081) \$1979

***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$1078 **Save \$98**
WebCode MSA2080



Microsoft Visual Studio .Net Professional

Visual Studio .Net Professional will enable developers to build next generation Internet applications that target any Internet device and integrate with any platform.

Upgrade (MSA9837) \$832
Full (MSA9836) \$1299



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$140 **Save \$18**
WebCode MSA9819

DVD Our Price \$69 **Save \$10**
WebCode MSC2472

Microsoft Publisher 2003

Publisher 2003 is a comprehensive solution for creating and publishing a wide variety of publications for desktop printing, commercial printing, e-mail distribution, or viewing on the Web. Publisher 2003 looks and works much like other programs in the Microsoft Office System, making it easier to use the right Office tool for the task.

Upgrade (MSA4235) \$159
Full (MSA4234) \$269



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$142 **Save \$17**
WebCode MSA4233

WebCode MSA4233

Microsoft Visio 2003 Standard

Microsoft Office Visio 2003 gives business and technical users the power to visualise and communicate ideas, information, and systems. Use the simple, flexible tools in Visio 2003 to easily create business and technical charts and graphics that capture your inspiration and communicate it with impact.

Standard Upgrade (MSA4245) \$374
Full (MSA4244) \$297



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$97 **Save \$11**
WebCode MSA4243

WebCode MSA4243

Microsoft Small Business Server 2003

Access your desktop remotely from any browser - anywhere in the world - 24x7. Collaborate on projects via an auto deployed Windows SharePoint Services site. Best-of-breed email and calendaring solution with Exchange 2003 and Outlook 2003

SBS 2003 Premium (MS59705) \$2295



Standard Our Price \$985 **Save \$114**
WebCode MSA59700

WebCode MSA59700

Microsoft Visual Studio .Net Standard

Reengineering to be a first-class language on the Microsoft .NET Framework. It provides the easiest and most productive route for new developers and existing Visual Basic programmers to quickly build Windows-based applications.

Full (MSA9812) \$165



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$87 **Save \$12**
WebCode MSA9811

WebCode MSA9811

Microsoft FrontPage 2003

Use enhanced design tools to produce better looking Web sites. Generate better code, or expand your code skills. Use the scripting tools for interacting with Web pages and with professional coding tools, you can write code faster, more efficiently, and with greater accuracy. Connect with people and information in new ways by building Extensible Markup Language (XML) data-driven Web sites.

Upgrade (MSA4217) \$170
Full (MSA4216) \$319



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$148 **Save \$11**
WebCode MSA4215

WebCode MSA4215

Microsoft Visio 2003 Professional

Microsoft Office Visio Professional 2003 includes a full range of diagrams for business and technical professionals to create network and directory service diagrams, software, database, website diagrams, engineering drawings and building space and floor plans.

Pro Upgrade (MSA4242) \$374
Full (MSA4241) \$737



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$209 **Save \$36**
WebCode MSA4240

WebCode MSA4240

Microsoft SQL Server 2000 Standard

Relational Database Management and Analysis System. Great support for Web standards, powerful tools for system management and tuning, and exceptional scalability and reliability for your money make SQL Server 2000 the best choice for the next generation of enterprise-class database solutions.

Full 5 Client (MS58209) \$2276



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$1478 **Save \$119**
WebCode MSA58206

Microsoft Visual C++ .Net Standard

Visual C++ .Net is the most powerful C++ tool for creating the highest-performance software for Windows and the Web. Including features like Intellisense Technology, Edit and Continue which significantly speeds the development process.

Full (MSA9816) \$165



***for non-commercial use only**

Academic Our Price \$87 **Save \$12**
WebCode MSA9815

WebCode MSA9815

Price drop on assorted Microsoft Office Suites!

- Office Student & Teacher**
- Office Pro Edition full**
- Office Pro Academic**
- Office Small Business full**
- Office Standard full**
- Office Standard Upgrade**
- Office Pro Upgrade**
- Office Small Business Upgrade**

Why get MS Office 2003?

Microsoft Office 2003 Editions deliver significant improvements over previous versions of Office, including:

- Advanced e-mail management tools to help you fight back against spam and viruses better than ever before.
- Improved automatic document recovery and compatibility with older files, which mean fewer worries about lost data.
- Brand-new collaboration features to allow you to share work easily and stay connected anytime, anywhere.

MS Office 2003 Editions work best with Windows XP

- If you use Windows XP or Windows 2000, then Office 2003 is the right choice for you.
- If you use Windows 98 or Windows Me, you should consider upgrading to Windows XP.
- If upgrading to Windows XP is not an option for you, then Office XP is the best way to go.

Microsoft Office	Student & Teacher Edition*	Standard Edition	Small Business Edition	Professional Edition
Word	•	•	•	•
Excel	•	•	•	•
PowerPoint	•	•	•	•
Outlook	•	•	•	•
Outlook with Contact Manager			•	•
Publisher			•	•
Access				•
Enhanced XML Technology				•
Enhanced IRM Technology				•

* For non-commercial use only. Must be a "Qualified Educational User." See Student and Teacher Edition 2003 package for details.

Flight Simulator 2004

A Century of Flight lets you soar through aviation history at the controls of Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis, the Douglas DC-3, the Wright Flyer (the world's first successful powered aircraft), and other legendary aircraft.



PC	Our Price \$77	Save \$22
WebCode.....MSC3011		

Combat Flight Simulator 2

- Veteran World War II pilots from both sides of the Pacific confront each other in even detail - from the roar of engines to radio chatter
- MG graphics technology brilliantly captures classic World War II naval fighters
- From mission briefings to award ceremonies



Standard Edition Upgrade	Standard Edition Full	Small Business Upgrade	Small Business Full
Our Price \$359 WebCode.....MSA4221	Our Price \$608 WebCode.....MSA4220	Our Price \$335 WebCode.....MSA4226	Our Price \$679 WebCode.....MSA4225
Save \$65	Save \$66	Save \$64	Save \$70
WebCode.....MSA4237	WebCode.....MSA4222	WebCode.....MSA4224	WebCode.....MSA4223

* For non-commercial use only

Microsoft Windows XP Home with SP2

Designed exclusively for home computing. Whether you're working with digital photos, music, or video, or building a home network, Windows XP innovations bring you into the digital age with ease.

Full (MSA5010) \$285



Upgrade	Our Price \$149	Save \$20
WebCode.....MSA5011		

Microsoft Project Standard 2003

Microsoft Office Project Standard 2003 is used by project managers who need a desktop tool to manage their projects independently but who do not require strong coordination with other project managers or the ability to manage resources from a central repository.

Upgrade (MSA2054) \$525

Full (MSA2053) \$919



Academic*	Our Price \$104	Save \$9
WebCode.....MSA2052		

Microsoft Windows XP Professional with SP2

Delivers everything you demand from your computing experience. Whether you're on your own or running a business of any size, optimize your productivity with the digital world's latest innovations.

Full (MS95900) \$418

Academic* (MS95901) \$118



Upgrade	Our Price \$297	Save \$48
WebCode.....MSA9502		

Microsoft Project Professional 2003

The desktop enterprise project management program that is used with MS Office Project Web Access and MS Office Project Server 2003. All the core scheduling tools in Project Standard 2003, plus a powerful portfolio and resource management capabilities when connected to Project Server 2003.

Upgrade (MSA2057) \$925

Full (MSA2056) \$1535



Academic*	Our Price \$287	Save \$22
WebCode.....MSA2055		

Microsoft Plus! SuperPack for Windows XP

Microsoft Plus! SuperPack for Windows XP is loaded with stunning screen savers and themes, exciting games, and great new ideas for customizing photos, music, and home movies. It's a wonderful way to take your Windows experience to the next level.



Our Price \$49	Save \$6
WebCode.....MSA5012	

Windows Server 2003

Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition is the network operating system for small organisations and departmental use. It delivers intelligent file and printer sharing, secure Internet connectivity, centralized desktop application deployment, and Web solutions that connect employees, partners, and customers.

Std 1 Client (MS59867) \$1540

Std 10 Client (MS59866) \$1815



Academic*	Our Price \$685	Save \$85	Our Price \$835	Save \$64
WebCode.....MS59864			WebCode.....MS59863	

Train Simulator 1

Microsoft Train Simulator brings the power and excitement of some of the world's most famous trains to your PC, placing you in the role of engineer or passenger with unprecedented realism, exciting real-world rail challenges, and the tools to recreate almost any railroad experience in the world.



PC	Our Price \$32	Save \$8
WebCode.....MSC3004		

Quicken ShareAnalyser V3

Quicken ShareAnalyser is your roadmap to helping you manage your trading strategy. Learn to take control of your investments and manage your own investment decisions with confidence. Discover how investing in the share market can be fun and extremely rewarding, with the best value analysis software package.



Full Version
Our Price \$279 Save \$20
WebCode QUIT0073

Quicken Personal Plus 2005

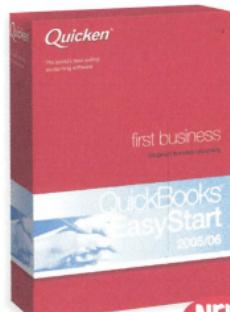
Quicken Personal Plus 2005 offers everything offered by Personal 2005, with some exciting additional features. As a result Personal Plus 2005 will provide added benefits to some groups of people.

- Easier Investment Account Setup
- Placeholder Entries and Backfill
- Snapshots on Investing Centre
- Average Annual Return

Quicken Personal 2005 (QUIT0070) \$72



Full Version
Our Price \$138 Save \$11
WebCode QUIT0071



Go to www.csw.com.au/quicken to view red hot Quicken deals and prices!

QuickBooks EasyStart 2005/06

For the first time QuickBooks user, EasyStart meets the key requirements of small businesses and has been designed with ease of use in mind. You will know how to use EasyStart the moment you launch it, it's that easy!

Track money in and out

Do the work you already do, but faster and more efficiently. Pay your bills, record expenses, track sales and apply payments, all in one place. Look up invoices, transactions, customers and suppliers instantly.

Create invoices and sales receipts

QuickBooks intuitive interface allows you to easily create, and then browse through your sales receipts and invoices. Your sales forms will always look professional with QuickBooks. We know every business is unique, so we have included options that allow you the freedom to customise. To personalise EasyStart to your business simply add your company logo or use the field chooser to select the content that suits you.

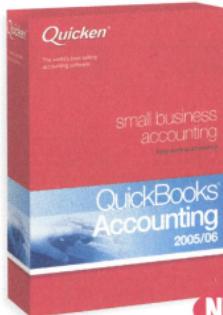
Track GST & prepare BAS

QuickBooks EasyStart calculates any GST that you collect or pay, as you enter transactions. When it's time to lodge your Business Activity Statement, simply run a Tax Liability Report and you'll have all the figures you need for the Tax Office.

^Terms & Conditions at www.quicken.com.au/promotions/

Full Version
Our Price \$89
WebCode QUIT0074

CASH BACK
Save \$10



Go to www.csw.com.au/quicken to view red hot Quicken deals and prices!

QuickBooks Accounting 2005/06

Much more efficient than spreadsheets, word-processing, or paper ledgers, QuickBooks quickly and easily manages basic tasks like printing cheques, paying bills, generating reports, invoicing customers and tracking expenses.

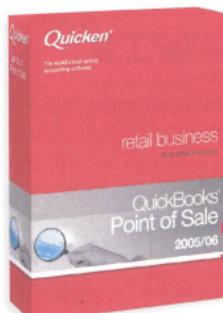
New Features

- Import bank statements into QuickBooks and match transactions easily to reduce data entry*
- Layer your BAS online
- Pay all BAS-related liabilities with a single cheque
- Drill-Down functionality in the BAS, access help on each field
- Process credit card transactions directly through QuickBooks**
- Easier to Use functionality
- Tech Support, Product updates & Upgrades for 12 months^
- Check with your financial institution to see if they support this feature
- *Extra charges & terms and conditions may apply
- **Normal Advantage terms and conditions apply

Purchase QuickBooks Accounting 2005/06 and receive a bonus Personal Plus 2005 via redemption. Offer ends 31/07/2005^

^Terms & Conditions at www.quicken.com.au/promotions/

Full Version
Our Price \$224 Save \$25
WebCode QUIT0075



Go to www.csw.com.au/quicken to view red hot Quicken deals and prices!

QuickBooks Point of Sale 2005/06

QuickBooks Point of Sale is for the retailer that is looking for a solution that delivers fast sales processing and easy customer management tools. QuickBooks Point of Sale requires QuickBooks to run, so to complete your store solution use QuickBooks Pro 2005/06, or take advantage of the retail specific edition in QuickBooks Premier 2005/06.

Get over \$800 worth of Point Of Sale Hardware for FREE*



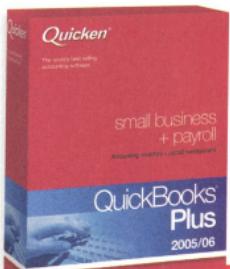
*Hardware offer only available when you purchase QuickBooks Point of Sale together with any one of QuickBooks Pro 2005/06 Full Version, QuickBooks Premier 2005/06 Full version or QuickBooks Enterprise V4 and you can get the receipt printer, scanner and cash drawer worth \$800. Offer valid until 31/07/2005. For full terms and conditions refer to www.quicken.com.au/promotions/. Allow up to 30 business days for the products to be sent out. Images for illustration purposes only. Extra fees/charges may apply for using the EFTPOS functionality.

Full Version
Our Price \$448 Save \$51
WebCode QUIT0086

CITY SOFTWARE

1300 658 600

Quicken



NEW

Go to www.csv.com.au/quicken
to view red hot Quicken deals and prices!

QuickBooks Plus 2005/06

Gives you easy-to-use tools and the latest tax tables you need to help manage and maintain control of your payroll. The integrated payroll feature saves you time and money by avoiding duplicate data entry and helps to avoid hassles associated with incorrect payroll withholding.

New Features

- Import bank statements into QuickBooks and match transactions easily*
- Process credit card transactions directly through QuickBooks**
- Lodge your BAS online
- Run a report to display a list of all transactions without tax codes
- Pay all BAS-related liabilities with a single cheque
- Pay employees into multiple bank accounts
- Half-monthly pay periods
- Easier to use Help functionality
- Email Paystips, Payment Summaries and Employee Super Notifications
- Tech Support, Product Updates & Upgrades for 12 months on Full and Upgrade versions of QuickBooks Plus 2005/06*

*Check with your financial institution to see if they support this feature

**Extra charges & terms and conditions may apply

*Normal Advantage terms and conditions apply

Purchase QuickBooks Plus 2005/06 Full version and receive a bonus Lexmark X4270 via redemption. Offer ends 31/07/2005**

**Terms & Conditions at www.quickon.com.au/promotions/



QuickBooks Pro 2005/06

Save your business undue costs by utilising QuickBooks email functionality. Invoices, statements, estimates, purchase orders, sales orders, sales receipts, adjustment notes, and reports can all arrive on your suppliers or customers desktop within minutes.

New Features

- Import bank statements into QuickBooks and match transactions easily*
- Run a report to display a list of all transactions without tax codes
- Process credit card transactions directly through QuickBooks**
- Lodge your BAS online
- Pay all BAS-related liabilities with a single cheque
- Pay employees into multiple bank accounts
- Half-monthly pay periods
- Email Paystips, Payment Summaries & Employee Super Notifications
- Tech Support, Product Updates & Upgrades for 12 months on Full and Upgrade versions of QuickBooks Pro 2005/06*

*Check with your financial institution to see if they support this feature

**Extra charges & terms and conditions may apply

Purchase QuickBooks Pro 2005/06 Full version and receive a bonus Lexmark X6170 via redemption. Offer ends 31/07/2005**

**Terms & Conditions at www.quickon.com.au/promotions/



Payroll Premier 2005/06

Payroll Premier makes payroll "Quicken.easy" giving you more time to manage your business. The best selling stand alone payroll software in Australia is designed to keep you up to date, compliant with the latest legislation, and grows as your business needs to grow.

- New single page summary form
- Enhanced search functionality
- Automated check of Tax File Numbers

NEW



QuickBooks Premier 2005/06 - 5 User Licence

QuickBooks is available in industry-specific editions that offer specialised tools and features unique to your industry. Whether you're an Accountant, Contractor, Manufacturer, Not-for-Profit, Professional, Retailer, or Property Manager there is a specific QuickBooks version for you. QuickBooks Premier allows up to 5 users.

New Features

- Import bank statements into QuickBooks and match transactions easily*
- Run a report to display a list of all transactions without tax codes
- Process credit card transactions directly through QuickBooks**
- Pay all BAS-related liabilities with a single cheque
- Pay employees into multiple bank accounts
- Half-monthly pay periods
- Email Paystips, Payment Summaries & Employee Super Notifications
- Tech Support, Product Updates & Upgrades for 12 months on Full and Upgrade versions of QuickBooks Premier 2005/06*

*Check with your financial institution to see if they support this feature

**Extra charges & terms and conditions may apply

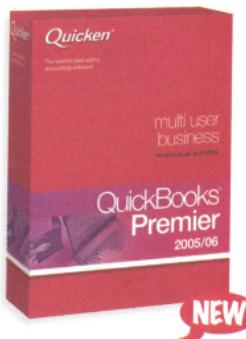
*Normal Advantage terms and conditions apply

Purchase QuickBooks Premier 2005/06 Full version and receive a bonus Lexmark X215 via redemption. Offer ends 31/07/2005**

**Terms & Conditions at www.quickon.com.au/promotions/



Go to www.csv.com.au/quicken
to view red hot Quicken deals and prices!



NEW

Go to www.csv.com.au/quicken
to view red hot Quicken deals and prices!

Subscriptions

Our Price \$449

Save \$50

Our Price \$620

Save \$120

Our Price \$1428

Save \$271

WebCode

WebCode

WebCode

WebCode

WebCode

WebCode

...

Full Version Our Price \$529 Save \$70

QuickBooks Customer Manager

Customer Manager is a new information and task management tool that will help you better serve your customers. It takes the pain out of tracking customer information in multiple systems because it consolidates all your client's critical information in one place and displays it on one, simple screen.

- Centralise all your customer data into one system
- Enhances customer service
- Simple to get started
- Manage projects efficiently
- Multi user synchronisation



MYOB
Justinvoices

If you're looking for a better way to prepare your invoices, track your sales and calculate GST received, but you're not after a complete business management system, MYOB Justinvoices is just what you need.



Our Price \$66 **Save \$13**
[WebCode] MYB0027

MYOB
BusinessBasics

No need to jump between programs (such as spreadsheets and word processors) to get your business done. Now, with MYOB BusinessBasics, you can run all your basic business tasks: create quotes, email invoices and enter transactions - from the one easy business program.



Our Price \$88 **Save \$11**
[WebCode] MYB0046

MYOB Test
Drive

MYOB Test Drive allows you to try Australia's leading business software. With up to 90 days use of MYOB's seven leading products including the Macintosh range, trial Australia's number one range today.



Our Price \$9 **Save \$1**
[WebCode] MYB0047

MYOB Accounting Plus 15

MYOB Accounting Plus helps you manage both your business and payroll with ease.

It's packed with the same business management features that you'll find in MYOB Accounting, plus it automates your pay runs, calculates PAYG withholdings, works out the super and then updates all your accounts automatically. Easy! If you bill clients for your time, MYOB Accounting Plus can help you and your team to track every minute and every task performed for them. It's easy to see what needs to be billed and how your employees are spending their time — you won't miss a thing.

- Process pays weekly, fortnightly, twice a month or monthly - or in any combination of those.
- Pay employees based on the time recorded on their activity slips.
- Quickly report on all obligations - PAYG withholdings, superannuation, leave, union fees.
- Includes the PAYG withholding tax tables for 2004/2005. Includes automatic update to the 2005/2006 tax tables when available.
- Via redemption from MYOB. Offer applies to full version only. Bonus Phone ends 31/7/05.

Super Choice ready!

NEW

BONUS* Uniden Phone & Headset
RRP \$168

Our Price \$249 **Save \$50**
[WebCode] MYB0045

MYOB Accounting 15

MYOB Accounting is for businesses that need to streamline accounts procedures and would benefit from improved inventory management, better management of customer and supplier relationships and advanced business reporting.

- Manage your sales, receivables and GST obligations
- Track your purchases and payables
- Keep track of your inventory
- Access M-Powered Services
- **BONUS* Uniden Phone RRP \$69**
- Via redemption from MYOB. Offer applies to full version only. Bonus Phone ends 31/7/05.

Full Version
Our Price \$230 **Save \$69**
[WebCode] MYB0042

Upgrade Version
Our Price \$220 **Save \$19**
[WebCode] MYB0044



NEW

MYOB FirstEdge - for Mac

MYOB FirstEdge is the easy business and accounting software for small or home-based business on the Mac. Run all your basic management tasks from the one easy business program. MYOB FirstEdge simplifies the way you quote, track and invoice your jobs, simultaneously tracking your transactions and GST, and providing you with over 70 reports to help you understand your business.

- Create quotes that convert to invoices
- Track job costs and profitability
- Email quotes, invoices and reports
- Automatically reconcile your accounts



NEW

Full Version
Our Price \$88 **Save \$11**
[WebCode] MYB0005

MYOB Premier 9

MYOB Premier is a multi-user business management software with integrated payroll, inventory, time billing and multiple currency transaction capability.

- Multiple users can access information simultaneously over your network
- Integrated banking, sales, purchases, payroll and time billing

BONUS* Uniden Phones & MS Desktop RRP \$448



NEW

* Via redemption from MYOB. Offer applies to full version only. Bonus Phone ends 31/7/05.
Includes 12 months of FREE Upgrades and Support.

Super Choice ready!

Full Version
Our Price \$1245 **Save \$250**
[WebCode] MYB0048

MYOB AccountEdge 5 - for Mac

MYOB AccountEdge is issued with a single user licence and with unlimited additional licences available, MYOB AccountEdge gives you the power to manage even the most complex medium-sized business, with a powerful multiple pricing level inventory, multiple currency transaction functionality, integrated payroll, and more.

- Track your inventory and your money
- Process your payroll
- Track your billing time
- Maintain accurate accounts
- Process sales and purchases
- Setup and manage promotions

Super Choice ready!



NEW

Full Version
Our Price \$532 **Save \$63**
[WebCode] MYB0037

MYOB RetailManager 8

Replace your cash register with MYOB RetailManager, a complete point-of-sale system that streamlines store operations and helps you better manage sales, stock, GST, staff and customers.

You can operate MYOB RetailManager on its own, add licences, and combine it with MYOB RetailManager Enterprise to provide centralised management of multiple point-of-sale or store locations.

Includes 12 months of 7-days-a-week Enhancements & Support



NEW

Full Version
Our Price \$1649 **Save \$341**
[WebCode] MYB0055

MYOB RetailReady

Whilst a cash register can do the job, it has its limitations. MYOB RetailBasics Point Of Sale software and Posiflex hardware, on the other hand, can turn a standard PC into a powerful EASY solution.

MYOB RetailReady enables you to:

- Search for stock and maintain stock items
- Analyse what's selling, what's not and GST collected
- Manage Lay-bys and process refunds
- Collect and analyse customer information
- Track credit card surcharges
- Export to most MYOB business software products



NEW

Full Version
Our Price \$769 **Save \$130**
[WebCode] MYB0040

1300 658 600

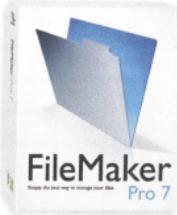
E-STORE

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
With over \$500 off MYOB software as prices may
change due to the daily fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

FileMaker Pro 7

FileMaker Pro 7 is the easiest-to-use, most customizable database software that effortlessly manages all your information. Gain insights into your business so you can make more informed decisions and enhance productivity. With over 100 new and improved features, you can turn your ideas into creative and customised solutions, tailor them to solve your specific business problems and share them securely with your whole workgroup.

- Organise all your data: PDFs, images, video, presentations, Excel and Word documents.
- Develop document management systems to track and archive workgroup data.
- Solve problems immediately with 30 free starter solutions for business, education and home.
- Create fully relational database solutions quickly.
- Link your data with the new intuitive relationships graph.
- Exchange data with Microsoft Office and many other applications.
- Develop and distribute secure business solutions over your networks or through single-click Web publishing.
- Control access through a unified accounts and privileges security model.



Academic
Our Price **\$239** Save **\$10**

WebCode..... FIL0135

Upgrade
Our Price **\$275** Save **\$24**

WebCode..... FIL0134

Full
Our Price **\$445** Save **\$54**

WebCode..... FIL0133

Creating a Database in FileMaker: v09C

Smart, focused, full-colour guide is the complete package for users who want to create their first Filemaker Pro database - now!



Book-Paperback
Our Price **\$19** Save **\$14**

WebCode..... PGN0072

Buy More, Save More

Buy a VLA that includes at least 10 units of FileMaker Pro 7 and you'll receive a FREE copy of FileMaker Developer 7. PLUS, you have the option to add a 5th copy of FileMaker Server 7 or one copy of FileMaker Server 7 Advanced at a huge 50% off the normal price! This offer is valid between 27 March 2005 and 24 September 2005, for further details go to <http://www.filemaker.com.au/promos/vla.html>.

FileMaker
Developer 7
FREE!



Buy 4 copies of FileMaker Pro 7 and get a 5th copy for free!

The ideal solution for small businesses, workgroups, or departments. This product is designed to start off your workgroup of 5 or more users (1 master and 1 CD are included in the 5 Pack), and provides a flexible way to grow with your workgroup.

Customers will receive a FileMaker Pro 7 five pack which contains one CD and five separate codes. Promotion starts 28 March 2005 and finishes 23 September 2005. Eligible SKUs include 5-pack Retail, 5-pack Upgrade and 5-pack Edu/Govt. For more information go to: <http://www.filemaker.com.au/promos/>

MoneyWorks Gold

MoneyWorks Gold is the comprehensive accounting solution for business with a requirement for flexible reporting, departmental accounting, inventory, job costing and/or multi-user networking. Designed for Filemaker!



Buy a 5-License pack of FileMaker Pro 7 for the price of 4-licenses

Our Price **\$849** Save **\$150**

WebCode..... COG0003

Want to take advantage of these fantastic offers?
Call City Software Managed Accounts on 1300 761 761

FileMaker Developer 7

An enhanced version of FileMaker Pro with integrated developer tools and utilities to help you build better databases faster. With new features, including custom functions and file maintenance tools and enhancements to the Database Design Report, script debugger and customisation options

- Streamline database development and maintenance
- Develop and troubleshoot solutions more effectively
- Deploy more customised solutions

Academic
Our Price **\$425**



Our Price **\$830** Save **\$45**

WebCode..... FIL0139

FileMaker Server 7

New server software is easier to use, faster and more secure with virtually unlimited data storage. FileMaker Server 7 is a high performance server software that efficiently manages shared database solutions, enables you to; share databases with up to 250 users; improve the performance of shared databases; host virtually unlimited amounts of data; administer databases centrally or remotely; and protect your data with advanced security features.

Upgrade
(FIL0143) **\$849**
Academic
(FIL0144) **\$875**



Our Price **\$1650** Save **\$99**

WebCode..... FIL0142

FileMaker Server 7 Advanced

FileMaker Server 7 Advanced is an enhanced version of FileMaker Server 7 that includes powerful web publishing and connectivity options. Using robust server connectivity options and the new powerful features you can:

- Share and integrate solutions over the web
- Host massive amounts of data
- Easily configure and maintain your database



Our Price **\$4199** Save **\$190**

WebCode..... FIL0145

Centennial Media Training for FileMaker Pro 7

Providing thorough and comprehensive training into the principles and features of FileMaker Pro 7. Proceed step by step with easy to understand methods and techniques.

Basic (CEN0054) \$188



Intermediate
Our Price **\$188** Save **\$10**

WebCode..... CEN0055

Borland Delphi 2005 Enterprise

With Delphi, C#, Microsoft .NET Framework and Win32 support for GUI, Web, database, and in one hyper-productive RAD environment, every Windows development task is easier, better, and faster. Delphi 2005 is all the power of Delphi and more for Microsoft .NET and Win32.

Architect (BOR0123) \$5035

Professional (BOR0119) \$1579



Our Price \$3595 **Save \$209**

WebCode BOR0121

Borland JBuilder 2005 Enterprise

JBuilder 2005 Enterprise simplifies Web and Enterprise JavaBeans development with two-way visual designers and rapid deployment to J2EE application servers. Power productivity with innovative JavaServer Faces, Struts, and Web Services designers, distributed refactoring, and integrated performance tools.

Developer (BOR0127) \$720



Our Price \$5050 **Save \$297**

WebCode BOR0125

Borland InterBase 7.5

A high-performance, cross-platform, embeddable database that provides multiprocessor support. Easy installation, automatic crash recovery, and minimal maintenance.



Contact CSW Managed Accounts on 1300 761 761 for more information

Crystal Reports XI

Creating and delivering information for extreme business insight

New Crystal Reports XI is designed to increase productivity and reduce the time spent designing, managing and delivering reports via the web. New features enable you and your end users to experience high quality viewing, printing, and exporting with less effort. These new features include an enhanced designer to speed up data access and formatting, dynamic cascading prompts to minimize report maintenance, and the editable RTF format to easily modify reports in standard word processing applications.

Access and present any data the way you want

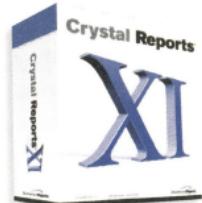
- Flexible and unconstrained database connectivity
- Visually understand complex information with highly formatted reports
- Automated wizards and reusable templates speed report production

Deliver the right information to the right people at the right time

- Real-time and scheduled reports delivered when and where you need them
- Scalable and reliable reporting services for speed of thought information access
- Personalized reports for interactive exploration

Universal integration with applications and portals

- Extensive SDKs to view, print, export and modify reports within an application
- Support for leading web application servers and platforms
- Pre-built portal integration kits for quick deployment



Crystal Reports Server XI

Crystal Reports Server is a complete reporting solution that helps small and medium-sized businesses create, manage, and deliver reports - via the web or embedded in enterprise applications.

It addresses all steps in the reporting process - from data access and report design, to report management and delivery, to report integration with portals and applications. Plus, it includes Crystal Reports XI, the world standard for report creation, making it easy for existing or new Crystal reports to be shared over the web.

One year of technical support and maintenance is also included for rapid deployment and peace of mind. Crystal Reports Server includes Crystal Reports XI Professional for report design, and comes with a 5 concurrent user access license.

Contact CSW Managed Accounts today to discuss your needs on 1300 761 761.

Dantz Retrospect 7 Professional

Designed for homes and home offices, Retrospect Professional protects a single Windows desktop or up to a small network of Windows, Macintosh, and Linux desktops and notebooks. Automated technology delivers fast backups and smart restores with unparalleled accuracy. Retrospect Professional is easy to use, enabling you to get your first backup running in less than ten minutes.

Dantz Retrospect 7 Disk to Disk (DAN0016) \$445

Dantz Retrospect 7 Single Server (DAN0013) \$1045



Our Price \$199 **Save \$10**

WebCode DAN0012

Dantz Retrospect 7 Small Business Server Standard

Retrospect Small Business Server Standard is designed for a business with a server running Windows Small Business Server Standard edition. It provides licenses to protect the server plus networked desktops and notebooks. Licenses can be purchased to protect additional networked servers.

Dantz Retrospect 7 Small Business Server Premium (DAN0015) \$1112

Dantz Retrospect 7 Multi Server (DAN0017) \$1949



Our Price \$737 **Save \$68**

WebCode DAN0014

ACT! 7 Retail

Make contact. Build relationships. Get results.

- Organise your data for quick and easy access
- Manage and grow your business relationships
- Link to your Palm OS® or Pocket PC handheld device
- Stay on top of your schedule 24/7
- Forecast and track sales opportunities
- Works with Microsoft® Outlook®

Academic (ACT7007) \$146

Upgrade (ACT7001) \$154



Full
Our Price \$263 **Save \$36**

WebCode ACT7000

The Internet, controlled.

getbusi is the easiest way to keep your organisation's Internet usage work focused.

- You decide who gets priority speed web access
- You decide which websites can and cannot be viewed
- You decide who can and cannot access the web

getbusi combines powerful bandwidth management, content filtering and monitoring and reporting with an easy to use browser based interface. All designed to seamlessly integrate with your existing office network.



Contact CSW Managed Accounts on 1300 761 761 for more information

D-25 User

Our Price \$2992 **Save \$187**

WebCode GET0001

26-100 User

Our Price \$4672 **Save \$295**

WebCode GET0002

101-300 User

Our Price \$7673 **Save \$480**

WebCode GET0003

1300 658 600

CITY
SOFTWARE

Norton Internet Security Solutions - Secure & Protect!



Key Features:

Which is right for you? Use this handy table to compare our Internet Security solutions.

	Norton AntiVirus 2005	Norton AntiSpam 2005	Norton Personal Firewall 2005	Norton Internet Security 2005	Norton Internet Sec. AntiSpyware Edition 2005
Single User (SYM9585) \$77	Single User (SYM8494) \$68	Single User (SYM8495) \$81	Single User (SYM8496) \$99	Single User (SYM9629) \$119	
Removes viruses, worms, and Trojan horses automatically	•			•	•
Scans and cleans email and instant messages of viruses	•			•	•
Detects certain non-virus threats such as spyware	•			•	•
Blocks internet worms at the point of entry	•			•	•
Detects viruses in compressed file archives in real-time	•			•	•
Filters out spam email		•		•	•
Blocks email in selected languages		•		•	•
Detects offensive email		•		•	•
Blocks banner ads and pop-ups	•	•	•	•	•
Hides your computer from hackers		•	•	•	•
Blocks online intruders		•	•	•	•
Protects your personal information on the Internet		•	•	•	•
Blocks inappropriate or distracting Web sites				•	•
Automatically detects and removes both spyware and adware				•	•
Notifies you about high-level Internet threats				•	•
Downloads new protection updates automatically	•	•	•	•	•

Looking for the latest licensing options? Speak to our managed accounts team on 1300 761 761

3 Pack (SYM8511) \$121	5 Pack (SYM8514) \$158	5 Pack (SYM8490) \$187	5 Pack (SYM8512) \$178	Academic (SYM6137) \$79
5 Pack (SYM5987) \$179	10 Pack (SYM8522) \$252	10 Pack (SYM8523) \$319	5 Pack (SYM8514) \$272	
10 Pack (SYM5988) \$307	Academic (SYM6118) \$47	Academic (SYM6123) \$55	Academic (SYM6121) \$73	
Academic (SYM6130) \$55				

Symantec Norton GoBack 4

Restore your PC to a healthy state by going back minutes, hours, or even days (depending on available disk space). Or you can use it to recover individual files and folders, such as accidentally deleted files and previous versions of documents. The new Safety Mode makes it easy to recover from problematic software installations.

Academic (SYM6111) \$44

Protect Your Data!



Our Price \$64 **Save \$15**
WebCode..... SYMB8519

Symantec Norton Ghost 9.0

Symantec's Norton Ghost 9.0 provides advanced backup and recovery for your PC. Protect your data by making a backup of your hard drive's contents - without restarting Windows. Incremental backups save you time and disk space. You can even schedule backups to run automatically. Quickly restore individual files, selected folders, or the entire hard drive.

Academic (SYM6116) \$78

Our Price \$118 **Save \$31**
WebCode..... SYMB8517

Norton SystemWorks 2005 Premier 5 User

Symantec's Norton SystemWorks 2005 Premier gives you powerful tools to solve PC problems and protect data. This easy-to-use suite helps you eliminate viruses, back up your files, and prevent computer problems. A new recovery disk allows you to recover data even when Windows won't start up.

10 User Pack (SYM8524) \$448

Includes Norton Ghost 5 Users

Our Price \$298 **Save \$81**
WebCode..... SYMB8404

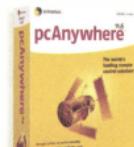


Symantec pcAnywhere 11.5 Host & Remote

Combines secure, industry-leading remote control with remote management and advanced file transfer to help IT personnel quickly resolve helpdesk and server support problems. Offers comprehensive security, including support for 13 authentication types, including RSA SecurID.

Academic (SYM6133) \$160
Host only (SYM2566) \$158
5 User (SYM2565) \$535

Leading remote control solution!



Our Price \$255 **Save \$44**
WebCode..... SYM9620

Norton Partition Magic 8

Symantec's Norton PartitionMagic 8.0 lets you easily organise your hard drive by creating, resizing, copying and merging disk partitions. Separate your operating system, applications, documents, music, photos, games, and backup files to reduce the risk of data loss if your system crashes. You can use Norton PartitionMagic 8.0 to run multiple operating systems safely.

Academic (SYM6111) \$66

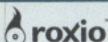
Easily organise your hard drive.



Our Price \$95 **Save \$24**
WebCode..... SYM2560



Computer Associates®



MAUS MasterPlan Professional

For people who need a winning, professional Business or Marketing Plan, MasterPlan's simple step-by-step wizard and easy-to-format enables you to construct full financials, text and graphics in no time at all!



Our Price \$253 **Save \$46**
WebCode MAUS01 AU\$501

MAUS Job Descriptions

Create a detailed outline of employee responsibilities and roles, educational requirements, working environment and even necessary job knowledge in minutes. This innovative and easy to use software comes complete with a library of over 3,800 customizable position descriptions. Give your employees the information they need to maintain focus and work smarter!



Our Price \$253 **Save \$46**
WebCode MAUJ038

MAUS OH&S Planner

Ensure your business is protected from the loss of time and money associated with injuries and accidents. Create an OH&S committee, action plans and emergency procedures as well as monitor ongoing safety performance with ease! This is an affordable and practical software application that will guide you step by step.



Our Price \$238 **Save \$61**
WebCode MAUS-OHS

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Call 1300 658 600 or visit: www.roxio.com.au for special prices may apply.
Offer valid until 31/12/05. Not all software titles are eligible.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

Vet Net Surfer Anti-Virus

Don't leave virus protection to chance - purchase Vet Net Surfer now to automatically protect your PC from viruses, worms and trojans, including those arriving via email. All the anti-virus you need.

eTrust PestPatrol Anti-Spyware

eTrust PestPatrol Anti-Spyware detects and removes a wide variety of spyware to protect your PC from unauthorised access, information theft and diminished system performance. Spyware, adware and other threats are rapidly spreading, and represent a major security and privacy risk. eTrust PestPatrol reduces this risk and provides an added layer of protection for safe Internet connectivity.



Special Security Offer! Double your protection with the Anti-Virus and Anti-Spyware BONUS Bundle (valued at \$150 inc GST) Plus Get \$30 Cash Rebate from Computer Associates!

*Valid only with purchase of eTrust Vet Antivirus and eTrust PestPatrol boxed software between 6 June 2005 and 31 August 2005. Rebate offer is only valid for purchases in Australia to a total sum of \$30.00. See box for details.

eTrust Firewall Personal Edition

Computer Associates International, Inc. (CA's) eTrust Firewall provides complete industrial-strength hacker and privacy protection.

eTrust Firewall protects your PC from both known and unknown threats, with an easy-to-use interface and pre-loaded settings that take the guesswork out of security.

- Easy-to-use options let you customise settings for your needs.
- Automatic program control provides expert advice in real time.
- Automatic network detection helps ensure the right level of security.

Our Price \$43 **Save \$6**
WebCode CHY021



Roxio Creator 7.5

Faster, better, easier and more - that's what you get with new Roxio Easy Media Creator 7.5. Super easy for most users, and video to perfection and enjoy them where, when and how you want! Now also includes complete PC backup - to protect all your data, media files and projects.

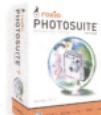
A single click can access regular tasks, recent projects and a range of powerful applications.



Our Price \$142 **Save \$28**
WebCode ADA7219

Roxio Photosuite 7 Platinum

Professional photo editing made easy. Instantly correct common photo problems and transform ordinary photos into personal masterpieces. Create stunning projects like calendars and photo books with just a click with point-and-click ease. Preserve a lifetime of precious memories on CD and share them in the comfort of your living room. The new PhotoSuite 7 Platinum - Simply Picture Perfect.



Our Price \$78 **Save \$32**
WebCode ADA7539

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Call 1300 658 600 or visit: www.roxio.com.au for special prices may apply.
Offer valid until 31/12/05. Not all software titles are eligible.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.



Personal/Home Edition

Our Price \$119 **Save \$30**
WebCode CHY031

BrightStor ARCserve Backup SBS

BrightStor® ARCserve Backup for Microsoft Small Business Server offers reliable, world-class backup and recovery for the critical business information in your Microsoft Small Business Server environment, and helps ensure the integrity and availability of your most important asset — data.

- Complete Backup and Restore for Microsoft Small Business Server 2000 and 2003 Servers
- Local and Remote Backup-to-Disk Support
- One-Drive Tape Library Support Included
- Virus Protection and Data Security

Our Price \$534 **Save \$200**
WebCode CHYMB03



Roxio Toast 6 Titanium

Now Toast 6 Titanium is the standard for CD & DVD burning on Mac OS X. Secure your important data, digitise old records, turn still photos into stunning media shows with Hollywood-style special effects; make video discs automatically from your DV camcorder.

Burn VCDs, SVCDs, and DVDs with menus. Get more out of your iLife - Roxio Toast 6 helps you do even more with iTunes, iPhoto, iMovie and GarageBand!



Our Price \$127 **Save \$13**
WebCode ADA7537

Roxio VideoWave 7 Professional

Roxio VideoWave 7 Professional makes it easy to edit and produce Hollywood-style video complete with music, transitions, special effects, text credits and theater-rich Dolby Digital sound. Author and burn professional-quality DVDs with animated menus and resizable buttons. VideoWave 7 Professional — the only video editing software you need.



Our Price \$112 **Save \$31**
WebCode ADA7540

Roxio Toast with Jam 6

Make your Toast sing with Jam. Toast with Jam delivers the full CD and DVD burning power of Toast plus pro audio editing and mastering for Mac. Produce commercial CDs and demos with impeccable quality. Import your favorite file formats, tweak your music with Bias Plug LE TMT VST IM, arrange your tracks and burn a glass master.



Our Price \$305 **Save \$24**
WebCode ADA7541

Nero 6 Reloaded

All of your CD and DVD burning tasks can be managed in a breeze with Nero 6. Burning DVD video, photo, data, audio or backup Nero handles all the possibilities with ease. Included within the burning solution, you can edit audio, mix multiple audio tracks like recording studio pro, burn photo, watch movies, SVCD and DVD movies, listen to music, design covers, optimise your drive's performance and more.



Our Price \$154 **Save \$45**
WebCode NERO003

1300 658 600

SONY

ULEAD

P PINNACLE SYSTEMS

Audio & Video Software

Pinnacle Studio 9

Create spectacular movies using numerous professional quality features and integrated CD/DVD burning capabilities. Pinnacle Studio 9 provides image stabilisation, automated editing, automatic colour correction, noise removal, and surround sound, while maintaining total ease of use.



Our Price \$168 **Save \$11**
WebCode PIN0074

Pinnacle Studio 9 Plus

An advanced video editing and disc authoring application whose intuitive interface and simple workflow make video enthusiasts with on-demand access to hundreds of professional-quality functionalities like chroma-key and picture-in-picture effects, image stabilization, automated editing.

Academic (PIN0106) \$132
Upgrade (PIN0094) \$115



Pinnacle Studio 9 Media Suite

Pinnacle Studio 9 Media Suite is a complete suite of software to maximize your creativity. It includes:

- Studio 9 Plus
- Corel PhotoBook
- Steinberg WaveLab Lite
- Instant Copy
- Instant DVD Recorder
- Instant Cinema
- Instant Disc
- Instant Backup



Our Price \$259 **Save \$40**
WebCode PIN0102

Sony Vegas 6 & Vegas 6 +DVD

With powerful video and audio production tools, Vegas software provides a complete and integrated solution for digital video, audio recording, editing and mixing, streaming content creation and surround sound production. Includes bonus ACID Music Studio valued at \$220!



Our Price \$610 **Save \$39**
WebCode SON0023

Sony Vegas Movie Studio+DVD

Vegas Movie Studio and DVD Architect Studio software provide you with a powerful, integrated and easy-to-use set of features that lets you bring your collection of videos, digital photos and music to life. Includes interactive tutorials. Use DVD Architect Studio software to burn your creations to DVD, produce movies containing multiple menus, buttons and links, or create slideshows and music compilations.



Our Price \$176 **Save \$33**
WebCode SON0019

Ulead DVD Movie Factory 4

Ulead DVD MovieFactory 4 is the easiest and quickest way to turn any video and photos into high quality DVD and VCD movies. Burn video straight to disc without a hard drive space. Create impressive motion menus with button and text design control. Produce professional-looking movies to play on any DVD player or computer.



Our Price \$89 **Save \$10**
WebCode ULE0073

Ulead DVD Picture Show 3 Deluxe

The ideal companion for your digital camera, combining two powerful programs for managing your photos and creating exciting multimedia slideshows that play on your DVD player.



Our Price \$89 **Save \$10**
WebCode ULE0061

Sony ACID Pro 5

ACID Pro software is the original loop-based music creation application. This award-winning software lets you create original songs, remix tracks, produce 5.1 surround mixes, develop music beds, score videos, and more. Intuitive "pick, paint, and play" interface. Advanced professional features. Includes over 1,000 royalty-free loops and Native Instruments VSTi soft synth bundle. Includes bonus Sound Forge Audio Studio valued at \$220



Our Price \$418 **Save \$51**
WebCode SON0018

Sony ACID Music Studio 5

Built-on award-winning ACID software technology, ACID Music Studio software provides all the tools you need to create your own music, remixes, soundtracks and CDs. Simply select from over 1,000 professionally recorded music loops in multiple genres and instantly incorporate them into the tracks, and play them back. ACID Music Studio software automatically matches the tempo and musical elements so everything plays back together and sounds great.



Our Price \$154 **Save \$15**
WebCode SON0011

Ulead PhotoImpact 10

PhotoImpact 10 gives you the most innovative image editing tools for the PC. Edit, manage and share digital photos, plus so much more. More digital photography tools, more filters and effects, more content and more learning resources. It's everything you need to produce professional results.



Our Price \$165 **Save \$24**
WebCode ULE0058

Ulead DVD Movie Factory 4 Disc Creator

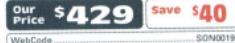
Ulead DVD MovieFactory 4 Disc Creator is a whole new world of CD and DVD making. Burn movies, slideshows, data and music to CD or DVD in an instant.



Our Price \$175 **Save \$24**
WebCode ULE0074

Sony Sound Forge 8

Sound Forge software is an award-winning digital audio editor that includes a powerful set of audio processors, tools, and effects for recording and manipulating audio. Sound Forge 8 now includes CD Architect software for producing professional Red Book audio CDs. These industry-standard applications are the professional's choice for audio editing, audio recording, effects processing, streaming content creation, CD mastering, and more. Includes bonus CD Architect and Noise reduction filter valued at \$319



Our Price \$429 **Save \$40**
WebCode SON0019

Sony Sound Forge Audio Studio 7

Sound Forge Audio Studio software provides all the tools you need to record your own music, edit audio, create streaming media and burn songs to CD. Capture live recordings of your music, instruments or vocal performance, or import music from your own CDs. Edit audio in over 10 popular formats. Apply over 30 built-in effects such as EQ, Reverb, and Delay.



Our Price \$143 **Save \$26**
WebCode SON0012

Ulead My Scrapbook 2

Everything you need to create scrapbook pages, background paper, clip art and titles on your computer. Customise and print a variety of scrapbook-themed pages and background paper to 8.5" x 11" or 12" x 12" format. Improve not-so-great photos with commonly used photo-editing tools. It's your complete scrapbooking software.



Our Price \$45 **Save \$5**
WebCode ULE0056

Ulead Video Studio 9

If you've never created a movie before, make one in three easy steps using the new Movie Wizard mode. Share finished projects on DVD, tape, the Web, and mobile devices. Unmatched stability, high-speed rendering and real-time performance mean less waiting and more time for creating.



Our Price \$175 **Save \$24**
WebCode ULE0072

CAN THE DEAL GET BETTER?
Because buying isn't the only way to get a deal. Prices as shown may change due to the daily fluctuations and online discounts.
Save price is calculated off the RRP.

1300 658 600

CITY SOFTWARE

Microsoft Virtual PC 7.0 for Mac

Expand the power of your Mac with Microsoft® Virtual PC for Mac Version 7, the application that makes it possible for you to access PC-only software, files, networks and devices from your Mac. Virtual PC 7, which is compatible with the Mac GS, offers important improvements in support, speed and reliability.



Our Price \$283 **Save \$16**
WebCode: MSA3754

Microsoft Mini Mate Bundle

The perfect companion for the new Mac Mini or any Mac where users need the best productivity software and some very cool wireless products to go with it.



Our Price \$239 **Save \$40**
WebCode: MSA3761

Office 2004 for Mac Student & Teacher

Office 2004 for Mac Student and Teacher Edition gives you all the leading presentation, spreadsheet, word processing, and e-mail software found in Office 2004 for Mac Standard Edition in one convenient, specially priced package.



*For non-commercial use only

Our Price \$227 **Save \$22**
WebCode: MSA3749

Office 2004 for Mac Standard

Includes 2004 versions of Word, Entourage, Excel and PowerPoint and a host of groundbreaking new features. Office 2004 for Mac Standard Edition introduces new features designed to help you transform the way you manage information, share your ideas seamlessly, and create impressive documents with confidence.

Licensing pricing available.
Full (MSA3747) \$605

Our Price \$359 **Save \$40**
WebCode: MSA3748

Extensis Suitcase

Suitcase is an integral part of any creative professional's workflow. For both Windows and Mac.

- Auto-activation (Mac)
- Corrupt font detection and repair (Mac)
- Resolves duplicate font issues (Mac)
- Speed and stability
- Font previews
- Print sample pages

Academic (EXT0013) \$99



Our Price \$145 **Save \$15**
WebCode: EXT0070

Symantec Norton AntiVirus 10 for Mac

Symantec's Norton AntiVirus 10 for Macintosh is the world's most trusted antivirus solution for Macintosh systems. It automatically removes viruses from email attachments, Internet downloads, and other sources—without interrupting your work.



Works with Tiger OS X!

Our Price \$109 **Save \$20**
WebCode: SYM9643

Symantec Norton Internet Security 3 for Mac

Symantec's Norton Internet Security 3.0 for Macintosh provides essential protection from viruses, hackers, and privacy threats. Norton AntiVirus—the world's most trusted antivirus software for Macintosh systems—removes viruses automatically—without interrupting your work.

Academic (SYE6048) \$98

Our Price \$149 **Save \$30**
WebCode: SYM2404

Microsoft Office 2004 for Mac in a Snap

As a Mac user, you may often feel like you are in a whole world and that the programs you use are even more unique. Microsoft Office 2004 for Mac is no exception and this book covers all of the innovative program features. Packed with more than 160 essential tasks, tips and techniques for the new Mac version of Microsoft Office 2004, this book will have you zero in on the task you're most interested in so that you can learn and get back to work.

Book - Paperback
Our Price \$32 **Save \$7**
WebCode: PGN0012

Tiger OS X

Meet the world's most advanced operating system. Again. Find what you're looking for. Get information with a single click. Create. Explore. Share. Mac OS X Tiger makes it easier than ever to find, access and enjoy everything on your computer.



Our Price \$193 **Save \$6**
WebCode: APP0103

iLife '05

Create digital masterpieces quickly and easily with this comprehensive edition of Apple's award-winning iLife suite. With five tightly integrated applications—iPhoto 5, iMovie HD, iDVD 5, GarageBand 2 and iTunes 4.7, it's easier than ever to create cinematic slideshows with your photos and music, edit a movie in high definition, produce the perfect song, and then bring them all together on a stunning DVD.



Our Price \$115 **Save \$5**
WebCode: APP0105

iWork '05

Create, publish and present your work with style. Keynote 2 and Pages, the two remarkable applications in iWork '05, make it easy to create stunning presentations and media-rich documents.



Extensis Photo Imaging Suite

Extensis Portfolio 7

Quickly and easily organize, access and share your digital files with clients, workgroups and partners.

- Catalog files stored anywhere - even offline
- One-Click CD Publishing
- Archiving
- Built-in image conversion
- Extract and store file metadata
- Contact sheet printing



Our Price \$715 **Save \$80**
WebCode: EXT0071

Symantec Norton SystemWorks 3 for Mac

Symantec's Norton SystemWorks 3.0 for Macintosh is the smartest way to solve computer problems. Norton AntiVirus 9.0 for Macintosh, the world's most trusted antivirus solution for Macintosh systems, removes viruses automatically—without interrupting your work.

Academic (SYE6050) \$108

Our Price \$169 **Save \$30**
WebCode: SYM2405

RENT SMART

Because buying isn't
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

Symantec's New Norton Internet Security 2005 AntiSpyware Edition

Blocks spyware and adware automatically

Symantec's Norton Internet Security™ 2005 AntiSpyware Edition provides essential protection from viruses, hackers, and privacy threats in one easy-to-use solution. This edition includes powerful new Norton™ Spyware Protection (available for Windows 2000 and Windows XP only), which automatically detects and removes both spyware and adware. Norton AntiVirus™ is the world's most trusted antivirus solution*.

Norton™ Personal Firewall blocks hackers. Norton™ Privacy Control keeps confidential information safe. Norton AntiSpam™ filters out unwanted email. And Norton™ Parental Control blocks access to inappropriate Web sites. Get all-in-one protection against today's most dangerous online threats with Norton Internet Security AntiSpyware Edition.

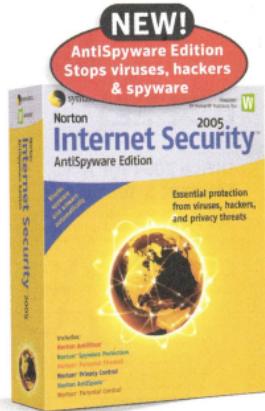
* Top-selling antivirus software product from December 2000 through February 2005 based on The NPD Group's retail Top Selling Business Software list.

Academic
SYE6137

\$79
Save \$20

WebCode
SYM9629

\$119
Save \$30



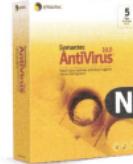
Symantec Anti-Spyware Solutions for Small Business



\$739
Save \$140
WebCode
SYM9634



\$1365
Save \$264
WebCode
SYM9635



\$567
Save \$102
WebCode
SYM9640



\$1049
Save \$210
WebCode
SYM9641

Symantec Client Security 3.0

5 User With Groupware

Symantec Client Security 3.0 protects your network against viruses, adware, spyware and hackers. Combines virus protection, a firewall and intrusion prevention.

Symantec Client Security 3.0

10 User With Groupware

Symantec Client Security 3.0 with Groupware protection protects your mail servers against viruses, adware, spyware, hackers and spam. Optional Symantec™ Premium AntiSpam subscription service, powered by Brightmail™ technology.

Symantec AntiVirus 10.0

5 User With Groupware

Symantec AntiVirus 10.0 protects your clients and servers against viruses, adware, spyware and spam. Easy, centralised management of virus protection.

Symantec AntiVirus 10.0

10 User With Groupware

Symantec AntiVirus 10.0 with Groupware Protection protects your clients and servers against viruses, adware, spyware and spam. Optional Symantec™ Premium AntiSpam subscription service, powered by Brightmail™ technology.



symantec



Your ears are fine. Integrated audio solutions are not!

**Sound
BLASTER**
Audigy 2 ZS
Notebook



PC Games Addict - April 2005

Integrated audio solutions just don't cut it when it comes to your listening pleasure. With the new PCMCIA Sound Blaster® Audigy™ 2 ZS Notebook from Creative, audiophile-quality sound is now available to notebook users all over the globe.

It's not just because great music, movies and games deserve great sound... It's because you do.



Hear superior THX® certified sound from your notebook for the 1st time.



Rich, high fidelity 24-bit audio, 256 times the clarity of your basic notebook.



Your ears are built for surround sound. So should your notebook.



Enjoy 7.1 channel surround sound with built-in Dolby® Digital EX and DTS-ES™ decoding.



Experience ultra-realistic gaming audio with blistering framerate.



Record music and audio samples in richer, cleaner and professional 24-bit audio quality.

Other Notebook Audio Essentials from Creative



Digital Wireless Headphones with Bluetooth® Technology



Headphones HD-1700
Reversible earcups with Neodymium magnet drivers



Creative Travelsound® Notebook 500

30 hours playback on 4 x AAA batteries



i-Trigue® 2200 Portable Speakers

High precision 36mm NeoTitanium micro drivers



i-Trigue® 3400 2.1 Speakers

SurroundYes with advanced NeoTitanium Tri-Array technology



i-Trigue® 5600 Surround Speakers

Satellites with revolutionary Acoustic Coated Module™ (ACM™)

For a list of resellers visit www.au.creative.com/retailers or call 02 9021 9800

For more information visit www.au.creative.com



Home photos have never been this real.

The Canon Bubble Jet printer defined home and office printing. Now Canon introduces PIXMA, a new generation of printers that bring a higher standard of quality to home photo printing. With PIXMA you'll enjoy razor-sharp image quality, vibrant colour and high-speed printing. Some PIXMA printers even allow you to switch from photographic paper to document paper at the touch of a button. And with Canon's range of creative software, you can eliminate "red eye", retouch any blemishes, brighten faces and crop photos in no time at all. So now you can produce professional results and have fun at the same time. For more information about how the Canon PIXMA Bubble Jet and PIXMA All-in-One range of printers can bring your photos to life, visit canon.com.au/pixma



Canon
advanced simplicity™